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SATURDAY, MARCH 19, 1898.

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MESSRS. OHRISTIE, MANSON & WOODS RALES by AUCTION at their Great Rooms, king Street, St. James's Square, the Sales commencing at 10 clock precisely:

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On WEDNESDAY, March 23, OLD ENGLISH SILVER, the Property of a LADY of BANK.

On THURSDAY, March 24, OBJECTS of ART of the late MAURICE JUHNSON, Eq. of Blundeston Lodge, Lowestoft; OLD NANKIN and other PORCELAIN, the Property of GESTLEMAN; and PORCELAIN and DECORATIVE OBJECTS from other Private Sources.

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On FRIDAY, March 25, SILVER PLATE, the Property of the late J. H. EDGE, Esq., and the late T. H. GRUVE, Esq., and other OLD ENGLISH and FOREIGN SILVER, BOXES, WATCHES, MINIATURES, LACE, &c., from various Private Sources.

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On FRIDAY, March 25, and SATURDAY, March 25, the REMAINING WORKS of the celebrated Painter H. STACY MARKS, R.A., deceased.

On SATURDAY, March 26, the REMAINING WORKS of the well-known Painter J. B. BURGESS, R.A., deceased.

On MONDAY, March 28, PICTURES by OLD MASTERS from Blundeston Lodge, Lowestoft, the Property of the late MAURICE JOHNSON, Esq.

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London: GEORGE BELL & SONS.

SATURDAY, MARCH 19, 1898.

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LITERATURE

Mr. Gregory's Letter-Box, 1813-35. Edited by Lady Gregory. (Smith, Elder & Co.) This is a delightful book which places the reader on terms of respectful intimacy with great personages, and instructs him in the easiest manner conceivable about momentous events. The Mr. Gregory whose correspondence has been laid under contribution by his grandson's wife belonged in spirit as well as in fact to the class that really rules the British Empire-the permanent official. He was industrious, clearheaded, stiff in opinion-strongly opposed to Catholic emancipation, for example—but intolerant of shams and indifferentism. As Under-Secretary for Ireland he served under many Viceroys and Chief Secretaries, and acquired the respect of all, including even Lord Wellesley, the affection of nearly all. The result is that we get a particularly pleasant picture of official relationship, and some fresh insight into Irish administration. Clearly the governors of Ireland who preceded the Emancipation Act were not, as partisan history would have us believe, a succession of bigoted tyrants. They were wrong, doubtless, in confounding Catholicism with sedition, but they kept a careful eye to the material necessities of the country, quite independently of creed. Their confidences to Mr. Gregory have been edited by Lady Gregory in a brilliantly unorthodox style. She has paid little attention to dates, as her title-page shows, and she scorns foot-notes. There is an allusion, for example, in one of the letters to Lord Alvanley's duel with Morgan O'Connell on account of the "bloated buffoon" insult, which, as it stands without elucidation of any kind, is not over intelligible. Lady Gregory has, on the other hand, supplied some clever, if rather discursive sketches of Irishmen and Irish society, which serve admirably as reliefs to the more serious affairs of State.

Nothing is new in Ireland, not even "exclusive dealing," as the following extract will show:—

"May 22, 1813. The Guinnesses 'are very extensive porter brewers in Dublin, and a report having been invented that they had signed the

petition against the Catholics, the houses of the publicans in which their Beer was sold became unfrequented, or large Parties going into the houses called for Beer, and asking the Landlord whether he bought from Guinness, on receiving an answer in the affirmative, threw the beer about the House, telling the owner if ever he bought any more from the same People, the next visit they paid him should be more expensive.'"

This passage occurs in a report of Mr. Gregory's to Mr. Robert Peel, an energetic Chief Secretary who completely over-shadowed that easy-going Lord Lieutenant the Duke of Richmond. A little further on we come upon Lord Sidmouth—who, as Home Secretary, though Lady Gregory does not tell us so, was responsible for Irish business in the Cabinet—regarding Ribbonmen as identical with weavers! "Pray explain," is Mr. Gregory's dry comment to Mr. Peel, that "Ribbon work in Ireland is a very different manufacture from the weaving of ribbons in England." To the Duke of Richmond there succeeded Lord Whitworth, a man entirely after the Under-Secretary's own heart. His letters, written in London, give a stirring account of the arrival of the news that Napoleon had escaped from Elba, and Mr. Gregory's replies to him and other correspondents are those of one quite equal to the emergency. Thus he writes to Mr. Peel :-

"I perfectly agree that the Lower Orders are most dreadfully bent on Mischief, that in many places the Catholic population are united by the most horrible oaths of Association, that there are great numbers of concealed Arms in their possession, and that no Man can foresee when this Madness may break out into open Insurrection. Yet I can never believe there is any formidable State of Organization. The most timid and the most zealous have never been able to discover any Leader beyond the lowest description of Persons-no Depôt of Ammunition or Arms, no Committees, nothing resembling the systematic plans of the Rebellion of 1798, but the Evil Spirit which pervades the Country. If an Insurrection should break out under these Circumstances it might be fatal to many valuable Members of Society where it appeared, and the greatest care could be taken to prevent its appearance. But I never can suppose it would be of that general tendency as could endanger the Government, unassisted by foreign force. Nothing can be more obvious than the best mode by which the Agents of Buonaparte can serve him, by creating every possible alarm of domestic Insurrection, by which a powerful Diversion will be made in keeping our Troops at home, and preventing our adding to the strength of the alliance abroad."

Though fear of invasion was removed by Waterloo, disaffection continued, and Lady Gregory appends a curious report of the new watchwords and signals adopted by the Defenders, a branch of the Ribbonmen, in 1816:—

"The new signs were: the ring finger of the left hand placed in the left ear; answered by the forefinger of the right hand placed in the mouth.

"Words used by Defenders:—'There is a change in the times."

"'Then may I hope for the better.'
"'Well it never was more wanting."

"'If a change does not come, Ireland is destroyed.'
"'If the Americans would lay off the duty on

""If they would, all would be right, my friend."

We pass to the days when Emancipation became an open question with the Government, and Charles Grant, a "Catholic" Chief Secretary, was dispatched to keep company with a "Protestant" Lord Lieutenant in Lord Talbot. The former evidently began much as he ended under Lord Melbourne, well intentioned, but indiscreet, indolent, and deficient in resolution. Lord Talbot and Mr. Gregory shook their heads sadly over their uncongenial colleague, who certainly seems to have contrived to set a good many people by the ears. The Lord Lieutenant, on the other hand, though an oddity, had a shrewd perception of the drift of opinion. He frankly owned that, despite his Protestant principles, the North did not smile upon him:—

"When a man is made a d—d fool of, the sooner he unfools himself the better. My friend and relation magnified amazingly, may I not add very unfairly, the expectations that existed in this part of the Country for my presence. In good truth there is no person of consequence beyond the Dufferins and the Dean of Downshire. I was dragged to an ordinary Dinner and Ball, without a single soul there beyond a Dam Corporation member, so when I found that the same pleasure awaited me for to-day and to-morrow, Friday and I believe Saturday, I ventured to put in my protest, and said that as Lord Lieutenant I could not think of again attending the seats of Northern festivity."

Lord Talbot's ingenuousness makes him quite the most interesting character in the volume. His wrath at his summary dismissal was Olympian, and it needed all Mr. Gregory's sage advice to restrain him from a public outbreak. His interview with Lord Sidmouth must have been stupendous. The Home Secretary conveyed the king's commands that Lord Talbot should wait upon his Majesty at the Pavilion, Brighton:

"To which I answered, 'I can set out this moment or to-morrow, whichever day your Lordship may instruct me to go. Am I' (said I coldly) 'to go in Uniform or in frae?' This hit. But after a little Lord S. said, 'We must talk over the matter unreservedly.' 'My Lord, the matter is soon discussed. I have been turned out of office in less time than I should deem it right to turn a servant away, without having been told Why—in other words I have been condemned unheard. Had Lord Grey come into power he could not have treated me more unceremoniously. It is for your Lordship to tell me How I have deserved this treatment. I thank God I do not feel conscious of meriting it."

Under Lord Wellesley-an autocrat if ever there was one-Mr. Gregory descended with a bump from the friend to the Under-Secretary, Mr. Plunket enjoying the Lord Lieutenant's confidence throughout as the representative of the Catholics in Parliament. It says much for the loyalty of the man who was the "Castle" that he should have acquiesced in his isolation, and applied himself, in conjunction with the Chief Secretary, Mr. Goulburn, to feeding the people during the now-forgotten famine of 1822. We need not follow the conscientious pair through their curious correspondence during the new crisis in the Catholic question caused by Lord Liver-pool's illness and retirement. It is worth reading, though it adds little to the very familiar facts. Of much more moment is a long letter from Sir Robert Peel to Mr.

Gregory, explaining his change of view on Emancipation. It puts his reasons much more clearly than in the 'Memoirs,' and should be read by every one who wishes to understand the inner workings of Peel's mind. We will not, however, ruin it by extracts, since the argument must convince, or fail, as a whole.

The rest of the book is a little incoherent. There is a chapter on place-hunters, amus-ing enough, though it might have been compiled from the papers of any dispenser of patronage. Finally, Lord Talbot, from his English home, sends reflections on things in general in his best manner, but, as we have said, without much help from the editor :-

"I last night heard, to my great surprize and concern, of Mr. Canning's Death. The only remark I shall permit myself is, that the ways of Providence are awful and mysterious. Who would have thought that the Successor of a Minister afflicted by a mortal disease should be called to his last account before his Patron and predecessor? That everything ultimately tends to good I have long been intimately convinced.

May this awful Event prove a benefit to the
Country."

Lord Talbot's comments on the Emancipation Bill were about equally compounded of sense and the reverse; he was a typical "pigtail Tory," as they used to be called :-

"For me, I am rather inclined to require no Securities, as if given they will form new reasons for disquiet, and ultimately be cancelled. The word toleration should now be obliterated. We have all a right to everything, and are fast verging to the doctrine of Tom Paine of the rights of man."

During the Reform Bill agitation he exhibited the same curious blend of prejudice and insight. The following is of importance as foreshadowing the compromise in which the Waverers played a more or less

important part :-

"Lord Harrowby had many conversations with me when in the Country about the expediency of endeavouring to mitigate the evil which we could not avert, and I agreed to the proposition to consent to the suppression of the nomination Borough, which however true the position may be 'that they have worked well,' must be admitted theoretically speaking to be a blot in the constitutional representation, and being hit they could never again be of the

Use they have heretofore been.

"Four days' debate on a king's speech!" he explodes in another place. "Was such a thing ever heard of?" The two veterans had, indeed, fallen upon evil days, but as specimens of the old order they deserve to be remembered as men of an honourable, though narrow type, who did not rule Ireland at all worse than many who came after them. As Lady Gregory happily remarks, it was well for Mr. Gregory, for his own sake, that he should go out in 1830 with Protestant ascendency.

History of Greece. By Prof. Adolf Holm. 4 vols. English Translation. (Macmillan & Co.)

THE work before us is the very prompt translation of the newest and most complete history of Greece which Germany has produced. The learned but cumbrous work of Busolt is still far from finished, and on its present scale, with new editions of each volume that appears detaining the author,

its completion seems a long way off. It may, indeed, be said that of histories of Greece there is no end, and that the reading of most of them is a weariness to the spirit. Yet, in spite of the large choice which even the English reader has before him, there is not one that fulfils the requirements satisfied by Prof. Holm's book. We have, of course, Grote's immortal work, which will never be superseded in its grasp of Greek politics and of Greek political thinking. But Grote did not go beyond Alexander, and his appreciation of this capital figure shows how completely he had become what he himself calls a " Demosthenic Athenian." Thirlwall's work, carrying out its task with skill and patience to the end, is indeed still a history with which little fault can be found, and but for the competition of Grote it would have been a standard work to this day. But neither of them belonged to the generation which considers a personal knowledge of Greece necessary; neither had made any study of numismatics, or, indeed, of archæology proper.

These gaps in their knowledge were supplied by E. Curtius, whose picturesque and charming book was indifferently translated, and published at a price far beyond its worth. For if Curtius's topography and archeology were excellent, his appreciation of politics was simply childish. Of this defect in him the reader of Holm's criticisms will find many specimens. The ponderous in-genuity of Duncker (who covers only the early period) is unsuited to the English mind, for though there is no historian who seems more careful to make his authorities speak for themselves, his most admirable chapterse. g., that on early Sparta—are mere strings

of unproved hypotheses.

Such are the general histories of Greece to be had in English. It is not necessary here to speak of compendiums, or those shorter books brought out by English scholars, which contain no independent thinking, and encourage the unpleasant suspicion that our universities are content

to copy from the Germans.

In the face of these things, Holm's book may well justify its appearance in English dress. Though his four handy volumes are perhaps hardly big enough for a standard history of Greece, and his narrative is often too brief and sketchy, he has taken care, at the end of each chapter, to add such an array of references that the scholar can seek what special information he desires in any good modern library; and perhaps in these days of hurry a longer and more elaborate work would fail to find many readers. Then the style is easy and pleasant, and not at all Teutonic, for which reason the translators' task was not difficult, and they have performed it satisfactorily. This, we presume, arises from the long foreign residence of the author in his chair at Naples, and from his habit of writing books in Italian. And not only is his style cosmopolitan; his views are so also. He is not carried away, as Curtius generally was, by the absurdly special pleading of German professors, who from long brooding over a single author come to think him not only perfect in style, but infallible in judgment and spotless in character. Such are Classen on Thucydides, Schaefer on Demos-

thenes. Moreover, Holm's command of all the literature of Europe on his great subject-English, French, Italian, Greek, as well as German—makes his notes and references very various and complete.

These are the general merits this English translation may claim. The author himself has revised it during its progress, and added some valuable points to the fourth volume. No doubt he would have done more had his health been better during the last year. But we trust he will yet revise

a second edition.

Let us now turn to a few special features in the book, on which the reader will find judgments differing from the traditional and yet based upon sound criticism. In vol. i. the estimate of the Delphic oracle and its early influence is reduced from the exaggerations of E. Curtius to reasonable proportions. The Delphic priests did not suggest and direct foreign colonies any more than the Papal See did in the Middle Ages. Both were ready to sanction such enterprises, and to take credit for them afterwards, as done by divine will; but the originators they were not. It is not more probable that the Delphic priests were the original road-builders in Greece. The fact was that the demands of trade naturally tended towards the oracular shrines, where much treasure was deposited as in a bank. But as Holm aptly says, the old bank of St. George at Genoa, though under the patronage of the saint, does not prove that he originally inspired the Genoese with the idea. In the same volume the early history of Attica (c. xxvi.), with its curious contrasts to its neighbouring states, its homogeneous population, its distaste for colonizing (in spite of the early fort at Sigeum), is all set forth in a very original

In vol. ii. the picture of Pericles and the Athenian empire is most brilliant. All the new material from inscriptions, from coins, from excavations, is admirably utilized, and if any one desires to see what progress Greek history has made in our day, let him compare these chapters with those of Grote or even the more recent E. Curtius. But though the new 'Polity of the Athenians' is cited several times, it is not really worked into the volume. This is quite evident on p. 114, where statements concerning both Aristides and Themistocles are contradicted by that treatise. We furthermore disbelieve in the massacre of more than 1,000 Mytilenean ringleaders of rebellion at Athens, as it stands in the text of Thucydides. The emendation Λ for A, supported long since by an English scholar, removes the whole difficulty. The ringleaders were certainly not over 1,000, but just exceeded thirty. We wonder that on Socrates and the Sophists Holm does not cite the famous chapter of his favourite Grote, instead of referring us to the overminute and laboured account of Zeller.

In vol. iii. the salient feature is the sensible treatment of Demosthenes's career, especially of his trial for embezzlement. The evidence forthcoming—not only regarding the facts, but regarding the political morality of the day—is carefully weighed, and the decision is adverse to the orator. This view had been thrown out in his tumultuous way years ago by Prof. Mahaffy in his 'Social c o r e d

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Life in Greece.' On the other hand, the appreciation of both Philip and Alexander is very marked from an historian who thinks so highly of the Greek $\pi\delta\lambda$ s in all circumstances. Alexander is described as combining most of the great qualities of Achilles, Pericles, Alcibiades, and Epaminondas—indeed a wonderful, if somewhat fanciful combination.

Vol. iv., on the period from the death of Alexander to the battle of Actium, is not only the longest and fullest, but the most valuable of the whole work. For here the author has given a comprehensive and systematic view of the very troubled movements and complicated interests of the conflicting Hellenistic states, which were ultimately swallowed up by Rome. And here all the newer information which England affords has been fully utilized, par-ticularly the 'Petrie Papyri' and Prof. Mahaffy's other studies on the life of that period. But the author will not concede that there was any good thing in any Ptolemies after the first, nor will he admit the credibility of the assertion that Ptolemy IX., though a worthless man, could be an exemplary ruler. On the other hand, he maintains that the city republics of Greece were still the salt of the earth, and denies utterly the alleged degradation and decay of the free Greek citizen, which is so frequently asserted in vindication of the new monarchies. He regrets the subjugation of these little states by the power of Macedon or of Syria, and seems to think that but for their military weakness they might still have flourished for indefinite years to come.

We cannot undertake to discuss this large question with Prof. Holm, but merely note that he has not persuaded us. Our duty here is rather to give some account of the book as a whole, and of the salient points of interest. There are, of course, some isolated matters wherein he has either missed or scamped the truth. In his account of Hellenistic Asia Minor he says hardly a word of those curious high-priesthoods-like that of Archelaus, the Egyptian pretender-which gave the holders sovereign rights and digni-ties. Many cities were controlled by these popes. Nor does he give due weight to the curious consideration that the kings of Pergamum, representing the satraps, and so the old kings of Persia, were theoretically outside the constitution of the city, which was democratic in form, though they practically controlled it. He does not see that the habit of the Achæan League to regard its collected army as a valid assembly of citizens arises from their habits of serving as mercenaries where this was the fashion. Perhaps in a second edition, or even in an appendix, which might be printed with the index to the German edition whenever this indispensable supplement appears, such points may be rectified. The index to the translation is useful, but not nearly full enough. Occasionally, but rarely, the translators have made a slip. "Philadelphus" is printed in iv. 273 for the correct Philopator of the original. "The managing board [of the Alexandrian Museum] was composed of priests" is the wonderful statement got out of the priestlicher Vorstand of the original, a priestly president, a figure-head, and a Greek one, too. We object to "Spartiates" (iii. 101) and "thrived" (p. 153); "Blass" is printed for Plass (p. 174), who has written a book on the Greek tyrants. English critics may detect many more flaws; but the more carefully they read the more will they learn from the newest and ablest expositor of this vast and fascinating subject.

The Life of George Thomson, the Friend of Burns. By J. Cuthbert Hadden. (Nimmo.)

It is impossible at this distance of time to feel any overpowering interest in George Thomson. His collections of national music are now lost in oblivion, and what gives the chief value to his life is the cor-respondence he maintained with many people of more importance in the beginning of this century. Indeed, such interest as appertains to him is rather of a melancholy character; his enthusiasm caused him to employ the long years of an ill-spent life in bowdlerizing Scottish songs and harmonizing Scottish melodies. His accomplices in the latter design were undoubtedly the greatest continental musicians of their time, and that Beethoven and Haydn should miss the sentiment of the simple folk-tunes only shows "that the greater the genius, when misapplied, the more signal the failure." Let us hope that the mischief then begun may be to some extent rectified through the exertions of the society recently formed by some of our leading native musicians. Thomson's poetical taste may be judged by the fact that he was the "silly body," according to J. R. Lowell, who tried to get Burns to alter the rhythm of "Scots wha hae." Against these sins in the matters of the national muse and the pentatonic scale may be set the undoubted disinterestedness of his zeal. Fractious at times when his exertions were not recognized—as witness his letter about the celebrated Mrs. Grant of Laggan (who expressly reserved her acknowledgments to the living, and spoke only of the services of departed friends), a lady somewhat oddly spoken of by Mr. Hadden as "in the limbo of the forgotten dead" he was indefatigable in attacking every person of note to induce him or her to contribute to his collections, and generous to his contributors, when he could be so, to an extent out of all proportion to his leisure or his fortune. For this enthusiastic collector was a poor schoolmaster's son, and was throughout the working years of his life a clerk to the Board of Trustees for the Encouragement of Arts and Manufactures in Scotland, in which capacity his salary, beginning with 40l., amounted, after forty-nine years' service, to 429l. per annum. Leisure, probably, was a commodity less scarce than money in such an office. It were ungracious to wish the good man had been more strictly occupied.

With regard to the sub-title of his book, 'The Friend of Burns,' Mr. Hadden has made an excellent selection. That friendship is Thomson's best claim to celebrity, and the words are calculated not unhappily to stereotype the fact that Burns would have been the last to join in the ignorant outery against Thomson for his supposed meanness to the poet in his last dark days at Dumfries. The

misapprehension of Prof. Wilson and others was twofold—an ignorance of Thomson's pecuniary position and of the real unwillingness of Burns to accept money except for works all his own and published in the ordinary course of business. Mr. Hadden has laboured this point a little; but it was not unnecessary to show that the supposed miser was a clerk on 100l. a year, and had to borrow the 5l. he sent to the poet in his distress. It is possibly true, also, that Burns may have doubted the pecuniary success of Thomson's venture. If so, he was thoroughly justified by results, for the 'Collections' nearly ruined their compiler. Yet Burns, in his grandiloquent style, prophesies great things of the fame to be attained by his "brother of the quill." Second sight was never more erroneous.

The most interesting part of this book (which we may say, once for all, makes fairly the most of its subject) refers to the correspondence about the songs. We get many interesting glimpses of character in the attitudes of various people of more or less distinction to the persistent and obtrusive, though sycophantic approaches of the enthusiast. Scott treats him with "his wonted large-heartedness." He is diffident of his powers as a song-writer, except in the military or romantic way, and is not the least indignant at Thomson's attempt, more suo, to teach him how to write: "Each stanza of a national song should be constructed in the same form with the first stanza," &c. Scott did not always accept his corrections, but never resented a suggestion.

Mr. Hadden, who thinks Scott was overrated as a poet, seems to forget "bonnie Kilmenie" in speaking of Thomson's next correspondent. No doubt it is as a songwriter chiefly, but not "in no other capacity," that Hogg is destined to survive. Certainly he was a mainstay to Thomson, and some of his best-known songs were produced for the 'Collection.' The geniality and kindness of the "Shepherd" tinge the whole of a long correspondence.

whole of a long correspondence.

"Filled with apprehension that your lordship may think me too bold in making my request," Thomson approaches Byron on his knees. Byron sent through Murray his consent to do something for the 'Collection,' and seems to have tried to do so, but in a year's time wrote:—

"A bad song would only disgrace beautiful music. I know that I could rhyme for you, but not produce anything worthy of your publication. It is not a species of writing which I undervalue. On the contrary, Burns in your country, and my friend Moore in this, have shown that even their splendid talents may acquire additional reputation from this exercise of their powers. You will not wonder that I decline writing after men whom it were difficult to imitate and impossible to equal."

Thomson tried again, of course, but got no answer. There is an interchange of letters with Moore about the time of the Jeffrey duel, in which the little Irishman's reference to his probable visit to Edinburgh and his inquiries as to the whereabouts of his critic are, as Mr. Hadden says, "delightfully ingenuous." In the end nothing was obtained from Moore, who was engaged upon his Irish melodies.

With Campbell negotiations were equally unfortunate, though an extant letter from

the poet shows that he knew and respected Thomson's character. Lockhart seems to have contributed two songs reluctantly. On Lockhart's 'Life of Burns' Thomson rather expands in criticism - favourable, on the whole-believing the book to have done much to dispel exaggerated views of the moral lapses of the poet. Sir Alexander Boswell, who wrote some twenty songs, characteristically observes: "I believe people in general don't care what the words are, if they have words at all; anything will do to sing." But he did some excellent work, nevertheless. Like Bos-well, Joanna Baillie disclaimed all power as a song-writer, and, like him, stuck up for her own versions against Thomson's strictures. This part of the correspondence is by far the most vivacious, and some of it delightful. She seems never to have accepted one of Thomson's pedestrianisms. The discipline seems to have made him more devoted, for we find him in 1842 endeavouring to get a version of 'The Rock and the wee Pickle Tow' from the poetess of eighty.

On the whole, the letters to and from the verse-writers are pleasant reading, and justify the existence of the volume. Those that passed between the musicians and the compiler are, for the most part, only attractive from the great names involved. With Haydn, to whom he sent a present for his wife three years after her decease, and with whose friends he condoled on the maestro's death while the latter was "still on this nether world," Thomson was ever on amicable terms. Beethoven, on the other hand, though obviously conscientious in his endeavours, was throughout most concerned with the vexed question of remunerationwhich, indeed, was the great burden of the general song. It seems likely that the versions of the airs sent to be harmonized were very ill set, and clear that in more than one instance the composers, Kozebuch certainly, set down as error what was, in fact, the peculiarity of Scottish modulation. Add to this that, as Beethoven complains, they had no words before them to assist them in catching the spirit of the original, and it is no wonder that the admirable intentions of George Thomson were so unworthily fulfilled.

It is pleasant to think he did not live to recognize the failure of his life-work, though he reached the patriarchal age of ninety-two. His honest purpose was respected, and his patriotic efforts appreciated, by his contemporaries. The man seems to have been greater than the musician or the critic; and when he passed away, full of years, he was honoured and lamented by troops of friends. At any rate, he was the proximate cause of some excellent songwriting, and that should give him a place

in the memory of men.

The Life of Francis Place. By Graham Wallas. (Longmans & Co.)

MR. GRAHAM WALLAS has done very successfully a difficult and useful piece of work. Place's political life came to a conclusion half a century ago, and was of a sort that even a contemporary biographer would have had trouble in so portraying as to do justice to the subject without being tedious. I

Though for at least thirty years he took an active part in nearly every Radical movement of importance, and was the real leader in many, it was always as a prompter rather than as a prominent actor. A man of remarkable talents, described by his friend and disciple Joseph Hume as "the most disinterested reformer he ever knew, valuable in council, fertile in resource, performing great labours," he understood that his strength lay in guiding others, and, acting as an organizer or a wirepuller, he kept himself in the background.

His exceptional capacities and achievements were not confined to political work. He was a man who made his own career. Born in 1771, in a sponging-house off Drury Lane, of which his father was the disreputable custodian, he had but the roughest schooling, and at the age of fourteen he was apprenticed to a drunken leather-breeches maker. What Mr. Wallas calls "a certain dogged personal pride," however, helped to keep him fairly straight, and, becoming an independent journeyman in 1789, he married before he was twenty.

"Their joint earnings were under seventeen shillings a week. 'From this we had to pay for lodging three shillings and sixpence a week, and on an average one shilling and sixpence a week for coals and candles. Thus we had only twelve shillings a week for food and clothes and other necessaries. Nothing could be saved from this small sum. We however continued to dress ourselves respectably, and were comfortable with each other. As our poverty would not permit us to give anything away, we kept ourselves very much to ourselves, had scarcely any acquaintance, and visited nobody except our parents and my eldest sister.....We soon acquired the character of being proud and above our equals. This was the certain consequence of our having no acquaintance with any one, and being better dressed than most who were similarly circumstanced, and we were con-temptuously called "the Lady and Gentle-

Before marrying, Place had joined the Breeches - makers' Benefit Society, which was really a clandestine and premature trades union, the members of which, not satisfied with wages that could not exceed a guinea a week and were generally much less, went on strike in the spring of 1793 :-

"As I had not been at the club-house for more than three months, and had now no acquaintance with any one in the trade, I was neither aware of the intention to strike, nor of the strike when it took place. The first I heard of it was from Mr. Bristow. On taking some work home one evening he, instead of giving me more as I expected, gave me my discharge. I asked the reason; he would assign none, and I reproached him with acting unjustly, and in a way I should not have done towards him. He then alluded to the strike, to which he supposed I was a party. I assured him that I had never heard of any intention amongst the men to strike, and had no knowledge whatever on the subject, but that which he had imparted. He was a kind and reasonable man; he told me he was satisfied I had not, and would not deceive him.
'He was,' he said, 'very sorry to discharge me, but that at a meeting of the masters it had been agreed that every leather-breeches maker who was employed to make stuff breeches should be at once discharged, to prevent them assisting those who had struck.' Allison discharged me next day. Thus at once were our hopes destroyed and our views obscured. No chance of employment remained; so I went to the club-house, and here I was informed that every

man out of employment was to be paid seven shillings a week from the fund. I found that the number of men was at least equal to the number of pounds the club had in its possession, and consequently there was provision only for three weeks. In the evening, when the men were assembled, I stood upon one of the tables and addressed them. I pointed out the inadequacy of the sum they had collected, the privations they would probably have to endure. I proposed that as many as were willing should receive one week's pay in advance and a certificate, provided each of them would go on the tramp and engage not to return to London for a month. It was well known that a man who brought a certificate to any leather - breeches maker's shop in the country would be sure of a day's keep, a night's lodging, and a shilling to start again with the next morning, and in some of the larger towns a breakfast and half-a-crown in money to help him along. Many therefore were willing to leave London on the terms proposed. The proposition was adopted, and arrangements made to carry it into effect the

The project failed, and after a few weeks most of the strikers resumed work on the old terms; but young Place, having in this way become a working-class agitator, was refused employment, and he and his wife, with a dying child, suffered heavy privations through which they bravely struggled. "No working man or journeyman tradesman," Place wrote in his autobiography, "is ever wholly ruined until hope has abandoned him"; and he was always hopeful and full of resource. Much of his enforced leisure he used in organizing a Breeches-makers' Union and taking part in other movements; more was given up to hard study. He taught himself geography and geometry, read histories of all sorts, Locke, Hume, and Adam Smith, and drew from Paine's 'Age of Reason' illumination and inspiration. As a member of the London Corresponding Society he was associated with many "dangerous characters," and himself in frequent danger of imprisonment. But he was prudent, and mindful of his duties to his family and himself. In 1795, unable to obtain work as a journeyman, he bethought him that he would become an employer, being "convinced that the ordinary tricks of tradesmen were not necessary, and need not be practised." He began by seeking and finding a few private

"His next step was to acquire credit with the drapers and clothiers. With this purpose he made his purchases on an elaborate and ne made his purchases on an elaborate and ingenious system. 'I knew that by purchasing materials at two or three shops, however small the quantities, and letting each of them know that I made purchases of others, each would sell to me at as low a price as he could, and each would after a time give me credit. I afterwards put this mode of proceeding into practice, and whenever I had two things to purchase, I bought one at one shop, and carried it under my arm to another shop, where I bought the remainder of what I wanted. In a little time credit was offered to me, each wishing to have the whole of my custom, and each probably supposing it was greater than it was. From this time I always bought on short credit; instead of paying for the goods, I put by the money, taking care always to pay for what I had before the term of credit expired. I thus established a character for punctuality and integrity with three mercers and two woollen-drapers, and, as I foresaw, I should, if I could once take a shop, have credit for any amount whatever. This was a work of time, but of as to very purchased on the

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less time than I had calculated upon; I had supposed that it would scarcely be accomplished in less than six years; it was accomplished in less than four years."

In 1799 he opened a tailor's shop at Charing Cross with a partner, who soon deserted him. Two years later he started afresh on his own account, and in sixteen years he so worked up the business that in 1817, when he handed it over to the eldest of thirteen children who survived out of afteen, its net profits exceeded 3,000%.

"Though a skilled breeches-maker, 'I was,' he says, 'myself no tailor. I could not cut out a coat as it should be cut, nor make it up as it should be made up. I never thought it was worth while to learn to do either. I knew I could procure competent persons for these purposes, and that the most profitable part for me to follow was to dance attendance on silly people, to make myself acceptable to coxcombs, to please their whims, to have no opinion of my own, but to take special care that my customers should be pleased with theirs.' The student of Rousseau and Godwin, and the future disciple of Bentham, shows himself in the reflection, 'it was all matter of taste, that is, of folly and caprice.' During these years he definitely gave caprice.' During these years he definitely gave up every form of public life. 'I never lost a minute of time, was never on any occasion diverted from the steady pursuit of my business, never spent a shilling, never once entertained any company. The only things I bought were books, and not many of them. I adhered steadily to the practice I had adopted, and read for two or three hours every night after the business of the day was closed, which never happened till half-past nine o'clock. I never went to bed till twelve o'clock, and frequently not till one but I indulged a little in the morning by lying in bed till seven.""

Long before his retirement from business, Place returned to political work, and showed in it the same qualities that made him a prosperous tradesman. His back parlour was a centre—almost the centre for London and Eugland—of Radical activity. He kept himself more or less aloof from Cobbett and other reformers, and broke with Godwin after helping him with money through several years. He soon lost faith in Robert Owen, and was friendly with but a few of his successors. Orator Hunt or Feargus O'Connor and other firebrands famous in those days never attracted him. But it was to him that Sir Francis Burdett and Lord Cochrane in 1807, and after them Sir Samuel Romilly and Sir John Cam Hobhouse, owed their election for Westminster. Often against his will, he was an untiring leader of Radical movements in Westminster so long as there was vigour in them. From most of the politicians whom he helped to bring into notoriety and power he separated when he found them leaning, or jumping, to the Whiggism, or worse, that he detested. Joseph Hume, one of his youngest disciples and spokesmen, was nearly the only one whom he considered faithful, and with whom he remained in close intimacy to the last.

An interesting episode in Place's life, and an important constituent in the development of his character and work, was his connexion with Bentham and the Benthamites. He made James Mill's acquaintance in or about 1808:—

"Mr. Mill at this time resided at Stoke Newington, whence he came occasionally, generally once a week, I believe, to dine with have not been well said this morning by Willie

Mr. Bentham, who lived in Queen Square Place, Westminster. Our acquaintance speedily ripened into friendship, and he usually called on me on his way to Mr. Bentham's, when we spent an hour together."

Place was associated with Mill in, among other matters, the foundation of the British and Foreign School Society, and he wrote to him in 1814:—

"I do not know when I experienced more delight than your letter has this day given me. Somehow or other I have all my life long, and in all circumstances, met with so much of what was excellent, and even exquisite, that I have had a happy life, one enjoyment scarcely passing away before another presented itself. At present they crowd upon me; to be esteemed and confided in by the wise and good was the great end I always pursued, and your letter tells me that I have both deserved and obtained it from one whom everybody considers pre-eminently good and wise......Could I advise or perform anything which tended to promote your comfort, how inexpressibly happy should I be."

The help thus suggested took the shape of loans, honestly repaid, while Mill was writing his 'History of India' and overstuffing his children's heads with knowledge. He wrote thus to Place when John Stuart Mill was eight years old, Wilhelmina being younger:—

"My two children, John and Willie, are with me at six A.M., and then we have half a day's work done before any other body is up in the house. John is now an adept in the first six books of Euclid and in Algebra, performing simple questions with great ease, while in Greek he has read since he came here the last half of Thucydides, one play of Euripides and one of Sophocles, two of Aristophanes and the treatise of Plutarch on education. Willie has read along with him several lives in Cornelius Nepos, and has got over the most difficult part of the task of learning Latin, while John wants but little of being able to read Latin with ease. His historical and other reading never stands still he is at it whenever he has any time to spare. This looks like bragging, but as I tell you the untoward part of my circumstances, it is but right you should hear that which gives me pleasure also. There are few to whom I talk of either."

Place had taught himself some French. While on a visit to James Mill at Bentham's house, Ford Abbey, in 1817, he learnt some Latin.

"I have been pacing the walks from ten to two-four hours' hard work at Latin. I use all the care and diligence I possess or can command at this very, very difficult study; but my master gives me a good character, and says I shall certainly accomplish my purpose. Nouns sub-stantive and adjectives have been gone through, not slightly, but fully; pronouns as much as they are said to be useful; the verb esse-sum has been subdued; and I am loving away in all possible moods and tenses with am-are. cease loving in two days, and shall be teaching away with doc-eo, doc-ui, doc-tum, doc-ere. Every day I am obliged to decline a number of nouns and adjectives chosen at random by others, and to say all I have gone through. If I am not at school, no one ever was. Mill is beyond comparison the most diligent fellow I ever knew or heard of; almost any other man would tire and give up teaching, but not so he; three hours every day, frequently four, are devoted to the children, and there is not a moment's relaxa-tion. His method is by far the best I ever witnessed, and is infinitely precise; but he is excessively severe. No fault, however trivial, escapes his notice; none goes without repre-hension or punishment of some sort. Lessons

and Clara;—there they are now, three o'clock, plodding over their books, their dinner, which they knew went up at one, brought down again; and John, who dines with them, has his book also, for having permitted them to pass when they could not say, and no dinner will any of them get till six o'clock. This has happened once before since I came. The fault to-day is a mistake in one word. Now I could not be so severe; but the learning and reasoning these children have acquired is not equalled by any children in the whole world. John is truly a prodigy, a most wonderful fellow; and when his Logic, his Languages, his Mathematics, his Philosophy shall be combined with a general knowledge of mankind and the affairs of the world, he will be a truly astonishing man; but he will probably be morose and selfish."

Five years earlier Place had been introduced to Bentham; but their intimacy appears to date from this visit to Ford Abbey. It lasted till Bentham's death in 1836, and Bentham's and James Mill's influence upon him was great and permanent. He differed on many points from John Stuart Mill, whom he blamed for wandering from the paths in which his father had so severely drilled him to walk as a child. "I think," he wrote in 1838, "John Mill has made great progress in becoming a German metaphysical mystic. Eccentricity and absurdity must occasionally be the result."

Place was pained at being considered too ponderous a writer for the Westminster Review. Always industrious, he wrote several bulky books and numberless diaries and digests, of which very few were published, but from which Mr. Wallas has cleverly extracted an ample account of his opinions and doings, and yet more of the public movements in which he took part. Ever a busy politician, he was no less zealous in advancing social reforms. Besides being one of the first promoters of the British and Foreign School Society, he was active in other educational work. He laboured long and incessantly for repeal of the Combination Laws, of the Stamp Duty, and many other abuses. Though he wanted much more than most of his companions aimed at, he did all in his power to secure the Parliamentary Reform of 1832; though he found fault with the subsequent action of the Chartists, he drafted the People's Charter in 1838; though he was then old and ill, he rendered efficient support to Cobden and Villiers (who came to him as a veteran organizer) in carrying on the Anti-Corn Law crusade. There was no cause to which, if he thought its objects were good, he did not apply his energies. In their service and in private benefactions he spent nearly all the modest competence he had acquired by his business tact while still a young man. He was unwise enough, after his first wife's death, to marry in 1830 an actress, from whom he found it necessary to separate in 1851; and he died-almost in poverty, but cared for by his daughters—in 1854. Though he is well-nigh forgotten, Mr. Wallas's able volume should do much to secure for him an abiding place in the history of the first half of this century, which he unostentatiously did a great deal to make.

NEW NOVELS.

Cleo the Magnificent. By Z. Z. (Heine-

CLEO was a person who sat on a golden throne amid plashing fountains and pea-cocks' feathers and lamps diffusing soft light, and she so much impressed the guileless hero of this book that after a few hours' acquaintance she prevailed on him to marry her. He knew he was doing wrong, but he liked it for a week; then he became disappointed in her because she had a temper and could not act, though she had professed she could, and he had advanced somebody else's money to her on that understanding. He gets into difficulties with her family, who were vulgar and plain-spoken, and realizes that he might do something better in life than live on the money of the women who are in love with him; so he leaves Cleo to her magnificence and becomes a printer's devil. After much pathetic business in a garret, he repays a good deal of the money he had borrowed, and as Cleo is accommodating enough to provide material for a divorce he marries one of the ladies dying for love of him, kisses the other on the lips and weeps at it, and spends the last chapter in making kind reflections on most of the people in the book while on the honeymoon trip with his bride. It is disappointing to get so poor a novel from Z. Z., whose books are generally good. Let us hope that this is only a momentary forgetfulness of his real power.

Poor Max. By Iota. (Hutchinson & Co.) This book is disappointing, because in parts it is so good that its faults become the more obtrusive. The charm of the first two or three chapters is very great; they are written with a rare salt and piquancy, and the characters they introduce promise good entertainment. And in a sense the interest excited by the character of Max is maintained: his charm, his many-sidedness, his passionate enthusiasms, and his æsthetic raptures, if somewhat exaggerated, make a sufficiently real and attractive personality. But it is the setting in which he is placed that is at fault. As might be expected, his character only interests the author as far as it affects the woman whom he marries, and, indeed, this subject offers opportunity for a good study which is somewhat missed, as the whole bother is made to turn almost entirely on the financial straits to which Judith is reduced by her husband's indiscriminate generosity. The consequence is that Judith becomes frozen up by her need of making money, and she adopts a pitying, half-tolerant attitude to her husband, which is anything but charming, and detracts from the sympathy which she might legitimately arouse. Like Sarah Grand and others, Iota seems to imagine that no woman has any real dignity who does not adopt this attitude of crushed, and yet tolerant, martyr to the inferior sex. Again, it is a matter of taste, but Judith's device for putting Mr. Graves in his place seems distinctly second rate. Of course, such a circumstance would not be annoying if Judith were treated dramatically; but one has a consciousness all through that the author means to hold her up as a pattern of what

a fine woman should do if placed in her position. The faithful servant, who consoles her mistress with tea in the kitchen when the master is particularly annoying, is not absent on this occasion-she is beginning to be an institution, but she does not add dignity to the subject. However, the book is full of clever writing, and if one could forget the too apparent motive would be very enjoyable.

A Branch of Laurel. By A. B. Louis. (Bliss, Sands & Co.)

Anglo-French stories with peasants' dialogue couched in "thees" and "thous" often threaten to become tiresome, and still more often are so. Not so with 'A Branch of Laurel.' Here there is no dallying with the picturesque and the merely descriptive. It is short, to the point, and, as it proceeds, vivid. The tale point, and, as it proceeds, vivid. is based on the now historic epidemic of "possession" that overtook a community provincial Ursuline nuns in the days of Richelieu and of the Huguenot struggles. It is a mere episode, but in it the dead bones live and the spirit of the time revives. The picture is a dark and sinister one, where unworthy love and a truly infernal malice are remorselessly traced, only faintly relieved by the golden threads of a faithful attachment or two and some charming feminine sensibility. The figures stand out against the black curtain of time and the sombre background of crafty intrigue and human and religious hatreds. But dead springs and grey old stones seem somehow to unite in a sympathetic union, and to exert a softening influence even on this drama of wrong and violence.

The Prince's Diamond. By Emeric Hulme-Beaman. (Hutchinson & Co.)

THE author has, one surmises, read 'The Prisoner of Zenda.' He thought the idea of a hero who should masquerade as a king distinctly good, but considered that Anthony Hope had not properly appreciated its capabilities. So he decided to do it better himself. His first inspiration was to depict the new hero ("George Travers, Esq., Gentle-man") as an offensive cad. This was accomplished with a completeness beyond praise, and our author-elated, doubtless, at his success - proceeded to throw in a magic ring, some amazing members of the aristocracy, a Bengali Baboo, a secret society, a yacht-owning villain, and the Prince of Wales. The effect obtained by means of these improvements surpasses any ordinary powers of description. Mr. Beaman has further created a Countess of Silverton whom every one addresses as "Lady Belmont"; a game of piquet in which it is possible for one player to declare a sixième while the other holds a quatorze of queens; and a dark-complexioned kidnapper, who is described as a "native"—apparently of Mecklenburg Square. Upon these achievements we offer Mr. Hulme-Beaman our felicitations.

The Spanish Wine. By Frank Mathew.

(Lane.)
This is, if anything, an improvement on Mr. Mathew's charming book 'The Wood of the Brambles.' It is more coherent as a story, and it has lost none of that book's

quaint unconventionalism. Mr. Mathew has certainly a wonderful power of giving life to his characters; one discovers quite casually in the course of the story that it relates to people in the time of Queen Elizabeth, but they might just as well be modern, they seem so near and intimate. This quality is attained far more by hints and suggestions than by any apparent effort to give them reality; or rather the author seems to give the impression that he leaves his characters alone, and lets them talk or act just as they choose. One is afraid to make any suggestion that might take away from the charming reality and grace of the characters, but perhaps even a little more coherence and arrangement in the story would not be amiss. As it is, there is just a slight difficulty in understanding where the previous history ends and the actual events begin again; but after all this is a small matter, and in no way spoils the pleasure in a singularly delightful book.

Vindicta. By Fenn Marsh. (H. Marshall & Son.)

'VINDICTA' is a short and somewhat formless sketch of sundry persons animated by such motives as sacrifice and jealousy. These springs are not very clearly or powerfully worked, and the actors fail to interest one greatly. The dialogue hovers between the commonplace and occasional attempts at the highflown. It is, on the whole, vacant chaff, though probably "well meant for grain." There is a female drunkard, supposed to be of good birth and position, but she makes neither a good drunkard nor a good grande dame. The people are all in-tended to be what used to be called "ladies and gentlemen," but somehow or other they do not give the desired impression.

A Man from the North. By E. A. Bennett. (Lane.)

It is undeniable that, in good hands, the commonplace may be made to yield very charming material for fiction. But this result can only be obtained by emphasizing the poetry that may—that does—underlie the dreariest and most sordid lives. Mr. Bennett's method is the reverse of this. He supplies, not the poetry of the common-place, not the romance of the commonplace, but the veriest commonplace of the common-place. 'A Man from the North' comes to London as a youth. He goes into a solicitor's office as a temporary measure, while he looks to literature as his ultimate career. His literary efforts fail through sheer lack of perseverance. At the office, on the other hand, he succeeds—though surely the same fault would have ruined him there also. But this is the author's only lapse from accuracy. Henceforward Richard Larch does exactly what seven youths out of every ten in his position do: he eats his dinner, he flirts, he goes to the theatre; and, finally, he marries for the exact reasons that actuate seven men out of ten in marrying. All this is told in language that is invariably cultivated and frequently artistic; it is all perfectly truthful, widely typical; but there is nowhere any indication of the force by which alone such a subject could be justified.

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Les Plus Forts. Par Georges Clemenceau. (Paris, Charpentier.)

M. CLEMENCEAU has written a novel which is somewhat curious for the work of a distinguished journalist and politician. There is an enormous amount of labour in it, and the first half of the book shows that an able man, with no special apprenticeship to novelwriting, can turn out work equal to, and somewhat similar to, that of M. Cherbuliez. The latter part of the book, however, is spun out, and the want of training in romance of the clever author is revealed in the difficulty which he finds in bringing his story to an end. It has not only no catastrophe, but not even any real con-clusion. The story is, on the whole, a well-treated expression of the constant fight of the present day between the sentimental experience of old age and the ferocious hardness of the youth of our time. Philosophically M. Clemenceau's book is a most interesting study; but, considered as a novel, it—or, at all events, the latter part of it-must be called a failure. The Parisian characters introduced have all of them an air of being real personages; but none of them is such, with the exception of the Prince de Sagan, who figures in so many plays and novels that he has become what the French style a cliché. The keypassage of the work is one which declares

"the true young are those who have in the heart a generous impulse, those who believe, who propose to themselves a noble end in life, who fight against the disillusions of the world, and, in defeat, refuse to surrender. The old are all the peevish, fretful youth, full of low calculation, of stunted ambition.....flabby, impotent, and bad."

Such is, doubtless, M. Clemenceau's own view of the younger generation; to which they answer, "Aoh, yes," "Anglais," "Dreyfusard!"

TRANSLATIONS.

A Marriage Settlement, &c. The Unconscious Mummers, &c. A Daughter of Eve, &c. Cousin Pons. Seraphita, &c. By H. de Balzac. (Dent & Co.)—We have nothing but praise to add to what we have already said of the admirable version of Balzac's 'Comédie Humaine' which is now being edited by Prof. Saintsbury. The five volumes now lying on our table keep up the high standard which the translators and the editor have already set for themselves. Two volumes are due to the industry of Mrs. Bell, two to that of Miss Marriage, and one bears the name of a new translator, Mrs. Scott, whose version is fully as accurate and idiomatic as theirs. Some of Balzac's most characteristic work is included in these volumes, and to one story, 'Louis Lambert,' an autobiographical interest is attached. We note with interest a passage in Prof. Saintsbury's introduction to this story, which reminds us that Balzac, in spite of the immense quantity of labour and pleasure that he contrived to pack into a life of moderate length, was an omnivorous reader:—

"In his period of production, despite the enormous expense of time which his methods of writing imposed on him, he seems to have read a great deal; in his boyhood and in the ten years of his apprenticeship he seems to have read enormously." No doubt it was "fine confused" reading at the best; we wish that Prof. Saintsbury would write an essay on Balzac's library, ranging, as we know it did, from Petronius to Maturin. A man of letters could at least hardly wish for a more promising or a wider subject. In the meantime

we must content ourselves with commending the excellence in every respect of this truly monumental English Balzac.

The Romances of Alexandre Dumas: New Series.—M. de Chauvelin's Will. Sylvandre the Brigand. The Horoscope. Agénor de Mauléon. 2 vols. (Dent & Co.)—It is inevitable that readers of Dumas in English should be conscious of a considerable falling off in the new series of the readable American translation, six volumes of which are now before us. Almost all of the good work—the true Dumas—had already been translated in the first series, and in what remains it is easy to see the hands of the junior members of the firm of "Alexandre Dumas et Cie.," as an envious rival not unhappily called the establishment to which the world owes more than twelve hundred volumes. We do not suppose that even American enterprise aims at a complete translation. On the other hand, the stories now rendered into English have the advantage of being new to almost every reader outside France; and though none of them is to be mentioned in the same breath with the Musketeers or the Valois cycle, they are all readable enough if the standard of the reader is not too high. They help to confirm one's faith in the remark of Jules Janin:—

"Dumas's books show the mark of the lion's paw, and, good, bad, or indifferent, bear unmistakable education and the smoky flame of Alexandre Dumas."

By far the most interesting volume now before us is that which contains, along with 'M. de Chauvelin's Will,' the fantastic story of 'The Woman with the Velvet Necklace,' told to Dumas by Charles Nodier, of whom its introduction enshrines some charming memories. Here we find that always delightful story of Nodier and the Academician who proposed to define "crab" in the dictionary of the Academy as "a small red fish which walks backward." "There's only one fault in your definition," Nodier replied: "the crab isn't a fish, it isn't red, and it doesn't walk backward. The rest is perfect."

We do not think Miss Georgina Harding was well advised in translating into English Gabriele d'Annunzio's tale entitled The Triumph of Death (Heinemann). At the time of its appearance we dealt with this book at some length in these pages, and censured its purely sensual character. It is devoid of nobility of motive or purpose, and is only redeemed in the original by its splendidly sonorous language, its grand descriptions of natural scenery and artistic effects. All this is, of course, if not entirely lost, much diminished in the translation; and although Miss Harding has, on the whole, acquitted herself well of the task, D'Annunzio's fine poetic passages and outbursts of rhetoric necessarily read baldly and stiltedly in our English speech, which does not permit of such redundant linguistic flights.

Niobe. By Jonas Lie. Translated from the Norwegian by H. L. Brækstad. (Heinemann.)—Niobe is a mild, but by no means ineffective satire on modern super-culture, with its indisputable tendency to weaken character by sapping energy, over-developing the imagination, multiplying views and theories which lead nowhere, and ruining the capacity for honest humdrum work. As one of the few sane characters in the book judiciously remarks: "Formerly all fools and good-for-nothings went to sea, but now they go in for art." This new "social evil," which is, perhaps, more conspicuous in Scandinavia than elsewhere, has already been wittily exposed and ridiculed within the last twelve months by Pontoppidan, Larsen, and Ewald. Lie's satiric vein lacks the fire and vigour of the three brilliant Danes, and his style is homely, almost jejune, compared with theirs; but all that he writes is so transparently sincere, so carefully thought out, that he carries conviction to all—and they are many—who love to listen

to him. Briefly, 'Niobe' tells of the utter ruin, moral and physical, of a family of fadmongers who have been educated beyond their intelligence, and resent all attempts to make them earn their bread "in some practical way" as intolerable tyranny. The story naturally suffers from the scarcely veiled moral purpose of the author. It would be absolutely impossible in real life, even in Norway, to find such a mob of minxes and loafers assembled together under one roof, and the startling melodramatic dénorment is not what the admirers of Jonas Lie would have expected from him. Still there is power of a quiet sort in the book too, and the author shows his old gift of analyzing character, though here, as it seems to us, he wastes it on singularly uninteresting types. The translation is excellent.

Captain Mansana. By Björnstjerne Björnson. Translated from the Norwegian. (Heinemann.)—This is one of the best of Björnson's minor novels, a true story (not a mere Tendenzroman with an overpowering moral purpose) dashed off apparently at a sitting, and full of that Bersekerlike energy and fervour which irresistibly carries the reader along with it. The subjugation of a sullen masterful nature by the superior strength of a self-sacrificing love has ever been a pet theme with the great Norwegian novelist, and though we are doubtful whether such a bear as Mansana deserved the devotion of the Beauty who so magnanimously put up with his whimsies and forgave him his infidelity, we cannot but follow his fortunes with bated breath. The anonymous translator has done his work remarkably well.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE,

Mr. Edward Arnold publishes, under the title Army Letters, a reprint of Mr. Arnold-Forster's letters to the Times. In a preface written after the appearance of the Secretary of State's Memorandum and of the Estimates, but before Mr. Brodrick's speech, Mr. Arnold-Forster assumes that he has produced no effect by his present writings. But in a postscript he adds extracts from Mr. Brodrick's speech, showing that the reformers have made much way. Some of the points, however, which he picks out from that discourse as recent victories were in the speech of the Secretary of State last autumn; as, for example, the three-year enlistments and the changes with regard to deferred pay, while the reversion to the depôt system for the artillery was hinted at, and an increase of men for the infantry battalions promised. It is the case, however, that the Memorandum of the Secretary of State was an insufficient document, less full than his speech made outside the walls of Parliament, and less full also in the admission of the necessity for reform than the speech of the Under-Secretary. It is useful to have Mr. Arnold-Forster's letters preserved in permanent

Messes, Methuen & Co. have sent us Three Years in Savage Africa, by Mr. Decle, a Frenchman, who, originally sent out by the French Government on a mission, has become unpopular in his own country. It relates a journey from the Cape to Uganda and Zanzibar. The chief value of the book lies in its description of native manners, and especially of witchcraft, upon which a good deal of new light is thrown. Mr. Decle is a traveller of the rougher type, and relates, for example, without much compunction, how he on several occasions ate children, without knowing it till afterwards, "with great relish," in the shape of "curry I thought excellent," and "grilled bones that I enjoyed so much that I asked several times for more of them." "These, it appears, were human ribs." "This had a fine flavour of venison with a salty taste." Though he may be a bit of a pirate himself, however, Mr. Decle sees that the Great Powers in Africa "have acted like pirates, and laid violent hands"

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on territories to which we had no claim whatever." We are to justify our act by behaving to the natives "as their guardians and their trustees." How the Germans and the Congo State behave we may learn from this book, which says that the natives loathe both with reason. The Germans "speak like an axe splitting wood." The German Anti-Slavery Society builds its great establishments by forced "If a man tries to escape he is fired labour. "If a man tries to escape he is fired upon." Of the Arabs, against whom all Europe wages war, the author says: "I never saw them treat the blacks so badly as the German Anti-Slavery Society does." The Germans are described as living wholly by plunder, and the scenes of woman-flogging by their courts which are here described are so horrible that we should doubt their truth, but for the recent prosecutions at Berlin. Of the Congo State the author says, "Black labour is usually paid in gin, so poisonous that the lowest white navvy would refuse to touch it." "The Congo State is a vast irresponsible commercial company, with the King of the Belgians as its managing director, and the business of the company pursued through A "legalizedofficers-is systematic loot. blackmailer will appear in a village and demand so much rubber.....on pain of execution for the chief and destruction for the village." State is "a menace to the.....existence of white men throughout the whole of Africa." "This is the Congo Free State, whose freedom is all sham and humbug." Mr. Decle is also hard on the Roman Catholic missions, which buy slave children, teach them trades, and then work them. "Legalized slavery.....on a great scale...... shrouds itself under the cloak of religion." When the author reaches Uganda he takes what is known as the Lugard view of the conduct of the Catholic missions. He writes a good deal about Mashonaland and Matabeleland, but is wholly mistaken as to their history before 1888. He does not even note the inclusion of the whole country in a British sphere through the influence of the Rev. John Mackenzie on Mr. W. E. Forster and Mr. Chamberlain, long before Mr. Rhodes turned his attention to the district; and he is also mistaken in ascribing the Warren expedition to Mr. Rhodes rather than to Mr. Mackenzie, whom he does not even mention. The name of Col. Pennefather is misspelt. At p. 59 the author shows that he believes that donkeys do not escape the tsetse fly. We thought they shared the immunity of man.

Dr. Murer's Encyclopadic English-German Dictionary (Grevel & Co.) is a useful book, but it will naturally be more useful to Germans than to English readers. The main defect is the common one in English dictionaries made in Germany, the introduction of words that are not good English. They may possibly be found in some technical works, but they have no general currency, and many of them are unnecessary.

THE Hints for Eton Masters, by W. J., which Mr. Henry Frowde has reprinted from the journal of the author of 'Ionica,' show a fine and delicate spirit, and, though written for a past generation of schoolmasters, are quite worth reading to-day, particularly on the difficult matter of the relations between boys and masters.

The Johns Hopkins Press of Baltimore issue, in the excellent series of the "Historical and Political Science Studies" of the university of the same name, The Neutrality of the American Lakes, and Anglo-American Relations, by Dr. J. M. Callahan, which tells everything that there is to tell about the lakes question, and tells it well.

We have received the seventh part of the catalogue of autographs and MSS, printed for the Society of Archivists—The Autograph of Lord Byron, by Mr. John Murray. The facsimiles printed are most characteristic, and show the impulsive, hasty poet to the life.

THE Librairie Hachette & Cie publish the second volume of M. Godefroy Cavaignac's La Formation de la Prusse Contemporaine, which ponderously relates the history of the Hardenberg period from 1808 to 1813.

THE rival house of Calmann Lévy issues M. de Cisternes's volume on the negotiations for the liberation of French territory after the occupation of Paris, under the title *Le Duc de Richelieu*, 1818-1821. We fear that even the beautiful portrait of the minister prefixed to the book will not make it widely popular. M. Cavaignac and M. de Cisternes are dealing with the serious history of a period which no longer has a public, except that public which asks for racy memoirs, and gets them—often from the forger.

Messes. Bliss, Sands & Co. send us in their "Book-Lovers' Classics" A Sentimental Journey and The Scarlet Letter, with pictures by Mr. T. H. Robinson, in each case above the average, though Sterne is the better illustrated of the two. These volumes are low in price and should be popular.

WE have on our table Modern History of the City of London, by C. Welch (Blades, East & Blades),—The Women of Homer, by W. C. Perry (Heinemann),—Goldfields and Chrysanthemums: Notes of Travel in Australia and Japan, by C. Bond (Simpkin),—Army Service Corps' Duties in Peace and War, edited by Capt. W. H. James (Kegan Paul),—The Mirror of the Sinful Soul, by Queen Elizabeth, edited by Percy W. Ames (Asher),—Journalism for Women: a Practical Guide, by E. A. Bennett (Lane),—Beaten at the Finish, by G. F. Underhill (Diprose & Bateman),—Ballyho Bey, by A. C. Gunter (Routledge),—The World's Coarse Thumb, by C. Masters (Warne),—For the Reigion, by H. Drummond (Smith & Elder),—When all Men Starve, by C. Gleig (Lane),—The Story of Ab, by Stanley Waterloo (Black),—The Vicar of St. Nicholas', by R. Alexander (Digby & Long),—The Century, New Series, Vols. XXXI. Corps' Duties in Peace and War, edited by Capt. -The Century, New Series, Vols. XXXI. and XXXII. (Macmillan), — And shall Tre-lawney Die? by J. Hocking (Bowden), — Joana, by M. Surrey (Marshall Brothers), — Hearts that are Lightest, by Monti de Gomara (Digby & Long),—The Temple of Folly, edited by Paul Creswick (Fisher Unwin), -Sunlight and Limelight, by F. Gribble (Innes),—A Modern Homily in Verse, by Terra Wimall (Adelaide, Ridley),—A Window in Lincoln's Inn, by A. M'Leod (Kegan Paul),—Some New Testament Problems, by the Rev. A. Wright (Methuen),—Royal Penitence, by Canon Dugmore (S.P.C.K.),—The by the Rev. Unity of the Church, by J. B. Bossuet, translated from the French by the Rev. C. Hyde Unity of the Church, by J. B. Bossuet, translated from the French by the Rev. C. Hyde Brooke (Masters), — The Critical Review, Vol. VII., edited by Prof. Salmond (Edinburgh, T. & T. Clark),—The Faith of Centuries: Addresses and Essays (Nisbet),—Au Pays du Mystère, by P. Maël (Hachette),—Le Roi du Cristan Parts by Colo Bossuet, and H. Timbre-Poste, by G. de Beauregard and H. de Gorsse (Hachette),—La Forêt d'Argent, by A. du Pradeix (Paris, Lévy),—and L'Écosse, by Marie Anne de Bovet (Hachette).

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Z. TOPRLIUS.

Zachris Topelius — after Runeberg the greatest writer of poetry in the Swedish language that Finland can boast of—was born at Kuddnäs, near Nykarleby, on the 14th of January, 1818. After his father's death, in 1831, he was sent to Helsingfors, where the care of his education was entrusted to Runeberg, at whose house he had the advantage of meeting with Castrén, Cygnæus, Nervander, and other kindred and patriotic spirits. In 1833 Topelius entered the University of Helsingfors, where in 1840 he obtained the master's degree, and in 1847 that of doctor. From 1841 to 1860 he was editor of the Helsingfors Tidningar, in was editor of the History of Lumingar, in which periodical many of his poems and novels first appeared. Meanwhile, in 1854, he was appointed Professor-Extraordinary of Finnish History at the University; later on, however, in 1863, he became Professor of the History of 1863, he became Professor of the History of Finland and the Northern Regions, and in 1876 Professor of General History, which last post he held till 1878. Though Topelius was successful in every branch of poetry, he appears most happy in those lyrics and other poems which breathe patriotic or religious sentiments, and which may be found in his 'Ljungblommor' ('Flowers of the Heath'), 1845-53; 'Sånger,' 1860; and 'Nya Blad,' 1870. Of his dramatic works the best known are 'Efter femtio år' ('After Fifty Years'), 1851, and 'Regina von Emmeritz,' 1854. As a prose writer it is more especially in his novels and in his tales and reading-books for children that Topelius excels. In his 'Fältskärns Berättelser' ('A Surgeon's Stories'), 1853-67, in 5 vols., of which an English translation has appeared in America, he gives a series of romantic sketches from the history of Finland and Sweden from the time of Gustavus Adolphus to that of Gustavus III. The well-known 'Läsning för Barn,' 1865-84, in 6 vols., has found translators into English and other languages, and is a general favourite with the young. Among his fellow-countrymen Topelius ever enjoyed the highest esteem on account of his fervent patriotism and the high moral tone of all his writings.

THE DATE OF KING ALFRED'S DEATH.

THE possibility that the Vespasian MS. printed in my article in the English Historical Review might be cited to prove that Alfred died in 900 did not escape me, as Mr. Anscombe states; but I rejected this view after mature consideration. sideration, and I am confirmed in my decision by a perusal of Mr. Anscombe's case. The only possibilities in his letter that were not considered by me are that a year elapsed between Alfred's accession and coronation, and that the 'Old English Chronicle' calculated his reign from the latter event, whilst Florence reckoned from the former. By the use of these three possi-bilities Mr. Anscombe reaches the conclusion that Alfred died in 900. They are mere guesses, based simply upon the fact that Florence assigns one more year to the reign than the six existing MSS. of the 'Chronicle.' As these latter agree, it is evident that twenty-eight and a half years was the reading of the archetype. This is practically contemporary evidence, and we cannot throw it overboard because Florence, writing two centuries later, gives twenty-nine and a half years. In my article I suggested that Florence's mistake was caused by the over-looking or omission of the word ö\u03e8rum in the MS. of the 'Chronicle' used by him. That he was in error can be proved by his own evidence, for in the recapitulation at the end of his chronicle (ed. Thorpe, p. 274; 'Mon. Hist. Britt.,' 641 E) he states, quite correctly, that Alfred died in the twenty-ninth year of his reign. I do not know whether Mr. Anscombe

is prepared to maintain that Florence reckoned Alfred's reign from two different commencements. It is in any case unnecessary to consider further Mr. Anscombe's theory until he can produce evidence that Alfred's coronation was delayed for a whole year, and that his regnal years were reckoned from this hypothetical coronation of 872.

Mr. Anscombe characteristically charges me with inconsistency in calculating Alfred's regnal years from his accession and Edward's from his coronation. He might, in common fairness, have stated that I also reckoned Edward's reign from the date of his father's death, the presumed date of his accession, and that this calculation did not affect my conclusions. We do not know the date of Alfred's coronation, and there was a special reason for allowing for the possibility of Edward's reign commencing with his coronation. That reason is that Edward's succession was disputed by arms and probably delayed, whereas Alfred, who was a sort of joint king (secundarius) in his brother's lifetime, succeeded immediately (confestim, Asser, followed by Florence), and without opposition, upon his brother's death. From Mr. Anscombo's remark that I "advance Edward's coronation to June, 900, in order to meet the requirements of the theory whose acceptance I urge," one would naturally think that this date is an invention of mine. As a matter of fact, it is the only date recorded, and it is given upon the respectable evidence of Ealdorman Æthelweard, a not very remote descendant of Alfred's brother and predecessor on the throne. He fixes it, clearly and unmistakably, in the year 900, and as occurring a century after a very important event in the history of his house—the accession of

Ecgberht in 800.

The conclusion of Mr. Anscombe's letter bears examination no better than its commencement. It is hardly correct to say that my results "depend" upon the points enumerated by him. One of these points, which he tells me "will not be found to have recommended themselves to computists," is my "acceptance of the equation" that six nights before All Hallows

October 26th. Further on we learn that Mr. Anscombe considers that "six nights before" means "seven days." Our word "fortnight" is a survival of the O.E. system of reckoning by nights instead of days, and Mr. Anscombe might as well argue that a "fortnight before" is equivalent to "fifteen days before." prophecy regarding the acceptance of my equation has been disproved beforehand by Prof. This distinguished chronologist says explicitly, "auf denselben Tag [October 26th], sechs Nächte vor aller Heiligen, wird der Tod des Ælfred gesetzt auch in der ags. Chronik' ('Die Kalendarien der Angelsachsen,' p. 48,

note 3). The calculation is a very simple one, and it is supported by three MSS. of the 'Chronicle,' which substitute "7 Kal. Nov." (October 26th) for the "six nights before All Hallows" of the other MSS., and by the Old English calendars cited by me. (It may perhaps save further argument if I state that the O.E. mæsse, like the German Messe, refers in such cases to the day upon which the particular mass was held, not to the mass itself.) Æthelweard's "seven days" is, as I suggested, a mistake. It has, no doubt, arisen from confusion with 7 Kal. Nov. Mr. Anscombe, despite the strong

contemporary evidence for October 26th, prefers to believe that Alfred died on October states confidently that Florence misread ui. as iii.; that he then converted the date thus ob-

tained into 5 Kal. Nov.; that he similarly mis-read uii. as iiii. for the day of the week; and that, finally, he calculated the indiction in an unusual manner. It is unlikely that Florence had any MS. before him containing the blunder

of calling Saturday feria septima, as assumed by Mr. Anscombe. There is not the slightest by Mr. Anscombe. There is not the slightest necessity for all this juggling with the figures, as they agree perfectly with Florence's state-

ment that Alfred died on 5 Kal. Nov. 901. It therefore seems clear that he calculated them for that date, which is undoubtedly wrong.

In saying that "computists will continue to believe, and more firmly now than ever, owing to Mr. Stevenson's discovery, that King Alfred died on October 25th, A.D. 900," Mr. Anscombe is obviously speaking for himself alone. Prophecy is, as we know, a dangerous thing, and he must forgive me if I decline to accept it as an argument.

W. H. STEVENSON.

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THE SPRING PUBLISHING SEASON.

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Messrs. Blackwood & Sons' spring an-nouncements include 'A Memoir of Sir Charles Murray,' by Sir Herbert Maxwell, — 'The Diary of a Sun-seeker,' by Mr. G. W. Steevens, The Poetry and the Religion of the Psalms, by Prof. James Robertson,—'A Study of Ethical Principles,' by Prof. J. Seth,—'The Hittites and their Language,' by Lieut.-Col. Conder,—'Adventures of the Comte de la Muette during the Reign of Terror,' by Mr. B. Capes,—'The Augustan Ages,' by Mr. O. Elton,—'The Fourteenth Century,' by Mr. F. J. Snell,—'Early Fortifications in Scotland,' by Dr. D. Christison, — 'Her Majesty,' by Mr. S. C. Grier,—'A Popular Manual of Finance,' by Mr. S. J. Murray,—'The Decian Persecution,' by Mr. J. A. F. Gregg,—'The Early Relations between Britain and Scandinavia,' by Dr. H. Hildebrand,-and a number of new

educational works.

Messrs. Hutchinson's spring announcements include a new work by Sir Richard Burton, 'The Jew, the Gipsy, and El Islam,' edited by Mr. W. H. Wilkins, — 'The Origin and Nature of Man,' by Mr. S. B. G. McKinney,—'The Modern Marriage Market,'

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by Lady Jeune, the Countess of Malmesbury, and others, - 'The Women Poets of the Nine teenth Century,' edited by Mr. A. H. Miles,— 'The Housewife's Referee,' by Mrs. H. de Salis,—'Kings of the Hunting Field,' by Thormanby,-and new books by the late Sir Benjamin Richardson, on Japan by Mrs. Hugh Fraser, and on the human race by the Rev. H. N. Hutchinson. In Fiction: 'The Mil-Fraser, and on the human race by the Rev. H. N. Hutchinson. In Fiction: 'The Millionaires,' by Mr. Frankfort Moore, — 'The Vicar,' by Mr. Joseph Hatton, — 'Woman and the Shadow,' by Miss A. Kenealy, — 'Dearer than Honour,' by Mr. E. L. Prescott, — 'Against the Tide,' by Miss Mary A. Dickens, — 'A Bride of Japan,' by Carlton Dawe, — 'A Bachelor Girl in London,' by Miss G. E. Mitton,—'The Renunciation of Helen,' by Leader Scott,—'The Prince's Diamond,' by Mr. E. H. Beaman,—'The Admiral,' a romance of Nelson, by Mr. Douglas Sladen,—'Mars,' by Mrs. S. D. Barker,—'Wyndham's Daughter,' by Miss Annie S. Swan,—'Humphry, a Tradition,' by Miss E. Mendham,—'Adrienne,' by Rita,—'In the Shadow of the Three,' by Miss B. L. Tottenham,—'An Angel of Pity,' by Florence Marryat,—and several new volumes of select and popular novels. of select and popular novels.

Messrs. Innes & Co.'s spring announcements include 'Ireland, '98 to '98,' by Judge O'Connor Morris, — 'Through the Famine Districts of India, by Mr. F. H. S. Merewether, - 'Through Persia on a Side Saddle, by Miss Ella C. Sykes,

"Through the High Pyrenees,' by Messrs.

Harold Spender and Llewellyn Smith,—'The
Successors of Homer,' by Prof. W. T. Lawton,

—among new novels: 'Children of the Mist,' by Mr. Eden Phillpotts; 'A Woman's Privilege,' by Miss Marguerite Bryant; 'The Island of Seven Shadows,' by Roma White; and 'The Indiscretions of Lady Asenath,' by Mr. Basil Thomson,—and in the "Isthmian Library":
"Rowing,' by Mr. R. C. Lehmann; 'Sailing
Boats and Small Yachts,' by Mr. E. F. Knight;
"Figure Skating,' by Mr. M. S. Monier
Williams; and 'The World of Golf,' by Mr.

Garden Smith and others.

Messrs. Sonnenschein & Co. announce 'The Wonderful Century: its Successes and its Failures,' by Mr. A. R. Wallace,—'The Foundations of England: a History of Eng-land to the Death of Stephen,' by Sir James Ramsay,—'Studies in Little-Known Subjects,' by Mr. C. E. Plumptre,—a translation of Dändliker's 'History of Switzerland,'—'Recollections of Thirty-nine Years in the Army, by Sir Charles Alexander Gordon,—a trans-lation of 'The Greco-Turkish War, 1897,' by a German Staff Officer,—'Life in an Old English Town,' by Mr. M. Dormer Harris, - 'Aristotle's Psychology, including the Parva Naturalia, translated and edited by Prof. W. A. Hammond, - and 'Novum Repertorium Ecclesiasticum Parochiale Londinense,' edited by the Rev. G. Hennessy. In Science: 'Student's Text-Book of Zoology,' by Mr. Adam Sedgwick: Vol. I., 'Protozoa to Polyzoa (inclusive),'—'Text-Book of Palseontology for Zoological Students,' by Mr. T. T. Grooms asymptotic for the statement of or Pateontology for Zoological Students,' by Mr.
T. T. Groom, —several other scientific handbooks, —'Radiation,' by Mr. H. H. F. Hyndman,
—'Pocket Electrical Dictionary,' by Dr. E. J.
Houston, —'Eclipses of the Moon from A D.
300 to 1900,' by Mr. Robert Sewell, —and some
new volumes of the "Young Collector Series."
In Balles Letters, for 'Speciment Parkey." In Belles-Lettres, &c.: 'Specimens of Bushman Folk-lore,' by Dr. W. H. J. Bleek and Miss L. C. Lloyd,—'The History of England in Verse,' a collection of poems relating to English exploits, edited by Mr. R. B. Johnson,— Ish exploits, edited by Mr. K. B. Johnson,—
'Brown Men and Women; or, the South Sea
Islands in 1895 and 1896,' by Mr. Edward
Reeves,—'The Solent Chart Book,' by Mr.
D. B. Kitchin,—'The Romance of a Nautch
Girl, a Novel,' by Mrs. Frank Penny,—'Between Two Wives, a Novel,' by William Turville,—'The Social Side of the Reformation,' by Mr. E. Belfort Bax, Parts II. and III., - 'The Progress and Prospects of Political Economy,

by Prof. J. K. Ingram,—'University Extension,' by Mr. M. E. Sadler,—'Labour Colonies,' by Prof. Mayor, -and several translations of continental writers on economics and education. and school-books.

THE DATE OF SHAKSPEARE'S SONNETS.

THE determination of the biographical value of the Sonnets has more or less exercised the spirits of all good Shakspeareans during this century. Autobiographical they are, not in the bald prose of a nineteenth-century diarist, but in the soul-stirred verse of the most romantic period of English literature, ere the echoes of euphuism had quite died out. The three main questions—Who was Mr. W. H.? Who was the youth addressed? Who was the lady?-have been often discussed, but no answer has been universally accepted. Statements made con-cerning these may be divided into four classes: certainties, probabilities, possibilities, and contradictories. Space forbids an historical account of opinion, of which Gerald Massey and Mr. Tyler treat. Contemporary theorists argue in a dangerous circle: the Mr. W. H. of the dedication must mean Lord Herbert, afterwards Earl of Pembroke; therefore he must also be the youth addressed in the Sonnets, and therefore the bright Court beauty whose fall he wrought must be Shakspeare's temptress too, the Dark Lady of the Sonnets.

At no time in his life had Lord Herbert been addressed as Mr. W. H.; the very record of his baptism gives him his title; and the analogy sought in the name of Mr. Sackville being applied to Lord Buckhurst's work is not to the point, because the author bore that name when he wrote those poems. It is most unlikely that any publisher of the day would have dared to address the mighty nobleman of 1609 in a dedication so familiar. All the more unlikely is it that Thorpe should have done so, as we have other specimens of his style. In 1610 he dedicated to the earl, recounting all his titles and dignities, a translation of Augustine's 'City of God,' by John Healey, a deceased author, who had, in his lifetime, dedicated the 'Discovery of a New World' to Earl Pembroke. The humility of that dedication is a contrast indeed. In the same year Thorpe brought out Healey's translation of Epictetus, and dedicated it to Florio. Six years afterwards, either a new edition or a new issue appeared, dedicated to the Earl of Pembroke by Thorpe, who acknowledged that it would have been " sacrilege" had not the deceased left the work as a legacy to his lordship. my English article on the Sonnets, Berlin 'Shakespeare Jahrbuch,' 1890.) It is true that Pembroke had a distinguished and beautiful mother, that he was a patron of poets and a dabbler in poetry himself, that his parents wished him to marry early, and that he did not yield to their wishes. But, on the other hand, his portrait preserved at Wilton is dark, not fair, and so is the portrait of his brother Philip. Many other inapplicable epithets appear in the Sonnets; for instance, sweet breath, "like a rose" (Sonnet liv.), while Rowland Whyte says that Herbert greatly enjoyed tobacco. There is no record, or even tradition, of any association with Shakspeare until his later years, when, from his official position, he could "prosecute the author of the dramas with favour." similar contradictoriness Mary Fitton is declared to be the Dark Lady, in spite of the evidence of her portrait that she had brown hair, grey eyes, and a fair complexion. (I am glad Lady Newdigate's book supports the views I advanced eight years ago concerning her in the above-mentioned article.) Kemp's dedication is given a meaning not its own: "Faire Madame, to whom I too presumptuously dedicate." He, a dancer by profession, wished to honour her, the best dancer at Court. I feel sure that when she wooed the queen to dance after the mask at the marriage of the other Lord Herbert to Mrs. Russell

she should have said "Terpsichore" instead of "Affection" (Sidney Papers, February, 1599). One reference has not been brought forward ward in this discussion. A quaint book, called 'A Woman's Worth defended against all the Men in the World,' &c., edited by Anthony Gibson, 1599, was dedicated to Elizabeth, Countess Southampton, Mrs. Anne Russell, Mrs. Margaret Ratcliffe, and the Hon. Mrs. Fitton, "fair, and for ever honored, vertuous maid." Lady Newdigate's book shows how the last named was tempted at Court, and how she found, too late, that Pembroke should not have been trusted. Her whole career was changed. But she could not have been black of soul, as the woman of the Sonnets is described.

It is, therefore, satisfactory that the trying test of date disturbs the unstable equilibrium of the theory. We know that Meres, publishing in the autumn of 1598, places Shakspeare among the non-dramatic poets as the author of 'Venus and Adonis,' 'Lucrece,' and "certain sugred sonnets among his private friends." It is generally believed that these were the same sonnets we now have. Lord Herbert had come to town in spring, 1598, so there is only left the short space of six months for Shakspeare to become acquainted with him, to become intimate with him, and to sweep through all the varied moods of feeling expressed in his Sonnets; for Meres to find people talking of them, to get permission to see them, to finish his book, get it past the censors, and have it licensed. Even if we were to allow that not all the Sonnets were written when Meres spoke, yet in the very next year two had become public property enough to be printed by pirate Jaggard, the 138th and 144th—the latter of which was the climax of the whole series. Even that would not give time for the three years of friendship mentioned in Sonnet xcix. Known dates, therefore, put Pembroke out of the question, and allow poor Mary Fitton to rest in peace. The rendering of subordinate time-allusions depends upon the prime dates.

Now we know that by 1592 Shakspeare had been introduced to the Earl of Southampton, and that by April, 1593, he had dedicated to him the first heir of his invention, 'Venus and Adonis'; that more friendly relations followed; and that by May 9th, 1594, the promised "graver labour" was dedicated to him in notable words: "The love I dedicate to your Lordship is without end......What I have to do is yours, being part in all I have devoted yours." Yet the Herbert theorists would have us believe that in four short years this love had vanished so completely that in the same chamber of his heart he shrined another youth, "Lord of my Love, to whom in vassalage," Sonnet xxvi.; though he states repeatedly that "Love alters not," Sonnet cxvi. Is Shakspeare himself then Sonnet xxvi. to be a "wandering Will," a forsworn "light of love"? The Sonnets certainly speak of dedications and of books (Sonnet xxiii.), but he

had dedicated to no one, save Southampton. It has often been averred that there was nothing in Southampton's circumstances to make the Sonnets possible. That depends on how much is known of them. He was the son of Earl Southampton, by Mary, daughter of Anthony Browne, Viscount Montague, and Jane, daughter of Robert Ratcliffe, Earl of Sussex. He was born on October 6th, 1573, lost his father in 1581, his elder brother in 1585, in which year he entered St. John's College, Cambridge, where he became M.A. in 1589, having been meanwhile admitted to Gray's Inn in 1587. Camden and other writers highly praise his talents, culture, manners, courage, his generous impulses, and enthusiastic and lasting friendships. He was the ward of Lord Burghley, and wards in those days were considerably restricted in freewill and finance. is strange no critic has noted that Burghley intended to exercise the guardian's privilege and marry him to his granddaughter, as may

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be seen by a letter from Sir Thomas Stanhope to Lord Burghley, July 15th, 1590; and on September 19th Anthony, Viscount Montague, his uncle, spoke to young Southampton on the subject. But he did not care to marry then. "The Earl of Southhampton's armour was to be scoured by his executors" (S.P.D.S., June 4th, 1589). And on March 2nd, 1590/1, he wrote from Dieppe to Lord Essex, professing his will to serve him, though he has nothing to give but

himself (Cecil Papers).

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I have not seen his mother's portrait, but her father had been one of the handsomest men of his time, her aunt was a famous Court beauty, and it is quite permissible to allow she was good-looking. She was left a widow at twentynine, fettered in money matters, and had more than once written to Leicester entreating some favour for herself or her children. She and all her relatives were Catholics; her only daughter Mary had married Thomas, Lord Arundell of Wardour, a noted Catholic. Persecution seemed closing round them. We can understand of her, as we could never understand of the Countess of Pembroke (who had a husband and a second son), her earnest desire to see her only son marry into a powerful family, and to have an heir to the estate of her family, and to have an heir to the estate of her own blood. And when her son brought Shakspeare to his London home, the poet might have heard her accidentally express this wish, or he might have divined it. The Sonnets that urge the youth to marry speak of his personal beauty. Most writers have taken for granted that Southampton was plain. I have not seen a boyish portrait. But one preserved among the portraits of the Duke of Portland at Welbeck Abbev. though supposed to be taken in 1599. Abbey, though supposed to be taken in 1599, can well illustrate his appearance when he "stood upon the top of happy hours," Sonnet xvi. Tall and handsome, with a striking though irregular face, in which the finest features are the large and expressive eyes, he wears his hair, not after the fashion of his time, but hanging over his left shoulder in long locks, the ends curling like "buds of marjoram," Sonnet xeix. He is dressed magnificently in white satin and gold, with a crimson sword-belt. His richly damascened armour is shown in the background. There is quite enough suggested in the picture to account for the romantic admiration of a

grateful poet. Seven days before 'Lucrece' was licensed (which gave the key to Shakspeare's first poem in a way that disarmed future criticism), on May 2nd, 1594, Southampton's mother married Sir Thomas Henneage, Vice-Chamberlain of the Royal Household. This marriage gave Southampton an opportunity of materially helping his player, and when he came of age on the 6th of October, 1594, he would be more able himself to help his poet. Shakspeare was summoned to play before the queen at Greenwich on St. Stephen's Day, December 26th, and on Innocents' Day, December 28th of that year. On the same day at night the 'Comedy of Errors' was performed at Gray's Inn. I have explained in an English article in the Berlin 'Shakespeare Jahrbuch,' 1897, 'The First Official Record of Shakespeare's Name,' how I believe Southampton was the means of intro-ducing his friend to the law courts, and that this play probably had been played before the queen that day.

CHARLOTTE CARMICHAEL STOPES.

Literary Cossip.

Allusion has already been made to Mr. Sidney Lee's article in the forthcoming Cornhill, in which that writer seeks to establish the identity of the youth of Shak-speare's Sonnets with the Earl of Southampton by a variety of evidence, including the portraits of the earl, especially the Society's publications for 1897 are now two now at Welbeck. The number will ready for issue. Both of them are the

also contain a study of Grattan by Lord Castletown, in which stress is laid on the Imperialism of the Irish patriot, and an article by Mr. Alfred Hopkinson, ex-M.P. for Cricklade, on the unconscious revolution now taking place in the procedure of Parliament. Dr. Conan Doyle contributes a humorous ballad called 'The Groom's Story,' in which the break-down of a motorcar forms the central incident; the Rev. W. H. Fitchett continues his monthly battle studies; and Mr. F. A. Kirkpatrick tells the tragic story of Camila O'Gorman, perhaps the most romantic episode in the career of Rozas, the once famous Argentine dictator. Mr. E. V. Lucas writes 'Concerning Correspondence'; Mr. St. Loe Strachey describes the training of housewives under the Board of Technical Education; and short stories, the 'Pages from a Private Diary,' and a further instalment of Mr. Stanley Weyman's serial complete the number.

THE April number of the Century Magazine will contain, among other items, a poem by Bret Harte and an article, 'Over the Alps on a Bicycle,' by Mrs. Pennell, with illustrations by her husband. St. Nicholas for April will claim the attention of a large public by an historical article on the development of cycling from its first beginning to the present day.

THE valuable collection of books and MSS., "the property of Harold Baillie Weaver, Esq.," to be sold by Messrs. Christie, Manson & Woods on Tuesday next and two following days, have all, or very nearly all, figured in the recent catalogues of H. S. Nichols & Co., Limited. They chiefly came from the collections of Sir Thomas Phillipps and Mr. William Stuart, and comprise some very choice books. The gem of the collection is doubtless the magnificent Italian fifteenthcentury MS. Ovid, from Dr. Hawtrey's collection, which at the Stuart sale realized 650%. Other noticeable lots are a fine thirteenth-century MS. of the Latin Bible, "cum Prologo S. Hieronymi," formerly in the Palatine Library at Mannheim, and afterwards in the Stuart collection; several Horæ; Queen Elizabeth's Wardrobe Book, 1559-60; a very remarkable extra-illustrated copy of R. H. Horne's 'History of Napoleon,' 1841, extended from two to five volumes by the insertion of upwards of seven hundred portraits, engravings, letters, &c.; a complete set of the four folio editions of Shakspeare, with duplicates of the second and fourth; and an extra-illustrated edition of Thiers's 'History of the French Revolution,' extended from five to ten volumes, royal folio, by the insertion of 1,184 engravings, portraits, and so forth.

In his paper 'On some Bibliographical Points in connexion with the English Drama,' to be read before the Bibliographical Society on Monday afternoon, Mr. Sidney Lee will deal specially with an apparently unique typographical pecu-liarity which he has discovered in one of the two copies of the First Folio Shakspeare belonging to the Baroness Burdett Coutts. By the kindness of the Baroness, this copy will be exhibited at the meeting. The two illustrated monographs completing the

work of foreign members of the Society, the monograph on 'The First Paris Press being by M. Claudin, while the reprint of the Schiedam edition of 'Le Chevalier Délibéré,' with its fine woodcuts, was suggested by Dr. Lippmann, who contributes a brief preface.

ABOUT Easter Messrs. Methuen will publish a translation of M. Albert Sorel's 'La Question d'Orient au XVIIIº Siècle,' by Mr. F. C. Bramwell. This, which will, we believe, be the first introduction of M. Sorel's work to English readers, is to be welcomed, as his brilliant work is too little known in this country.

MESSRS. SOTHERAN & Co. have set a good example to dealers in second-hand books by acknowledging in their last catalogue that the authorship of Junius's Letters is unknown, and candidly saying, with reference to the edition in three volumes published in 1812, though it is the best, that "the mystery of the authorship, after Mr. Fraser Rae's exposition in the Athenaum that Sir Philip Francis cannot be the writer, is enveloped in greater darkness than ever."

MESSRS. LONGMAN will have ready immediately the fourth and final volume of Mr. James Wylie's 'History of England under Henry IV.' It will include a glossary of rare words, an index to the whole work (the first volume of which appeared in 1894), and appendices, with numerous extracts from unpublished MSS.

A SELECTION of verse and prose pieces from the Cambridge Review is being made with a view to the publication of a volume similar to those successfully launched by the Oxford Magazine.

THE 'Memoirs of the Life and Correspondence of Henry Reeve, C.B.,' the late editor of the Edinburgh Review, will not be issued until the autumn, as Mr. J. K. Laughton finds that the mass of material is too great to admit of the book being published this spring, as had originally been

'Unconsidered Trifles,' by Mr. George Dalziel, and 'A Dream of Paradise,' by Mr. George Thomson, are two new volumes of verse announced for immediate publication by Mr. Elliot Stock.

THE prospects of the London University Bill are decidedly improved now that it has passed through committee in the House of Lords without any attempt to alter the compromise regarding King's College. The gist of this is that, while no professor of that College will be disqualified as a teacher for endowment from the University funds, the endowment cannot be permanently attached to the professorship itself so long as it is subject to denominational restrictions. The other new provision in the Bill is the admission to the faculties of teachers whom the Senate may recognize outside the colleges, the object being to encourage higher teaching in democratic institutions like the Birkbeck and the Polytechnics.

THE sum realized at the Readers' Dinner amounted to 170l., being far larger than on any previous occasion. This included 12l. 12s. from the chairman, Mr. John Murray, 101. 10s. from Messrs. Clowes & Sons, and 101. 10s. from the Standard. The treasurer has paid towards Readers' Pension No. 3

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a second hundred guineas, and the balance will go to the Benevolent Fund of the Correctors of the Press.

Mr. Moweray Morris published some years ago, under the title of 'The Poet's Walk,' an excellent selection of poetry for the use of schoolboys. We understand that he has now prepared an entirely revised edition, which will appear shortly in Messrs. Macmillan & Co.'s "Golden Treasury Series."

WE hear that the Social-Democrat Deputy Wilhelm Liebknecht employs his present involuntary leisure at the Charlottenburg prison in writing his memoirs, which should be interesting. According to his organ, the Vorwärts, the united German Governments have agreed on a disciplinary measure against university and other public teachers. They may be removed from their posts if they advocate in their lectures doctrines pernicious to the State. This is a blow aimed at the liberty of teaching of which Germany has hitherto been so proud.

THE University of Freiburg, in Baden, has made arrangements for the insurance of all the students, lecturers, and even the servants of the High School. This academic insurance, which is to be inaugurated next term, will secure compensation for all injuries received in the University buildings, and even for accidents happening at excursions under the guidance of one of the lecturers.

MRS. SOTHEBY, who died last week at the age of seventy-seven, was the widow of Samuel Leigh Sotheby, the well-known scholar and book auctioneer, who died in 1861. Mrs. Sotheby retained her interest in the firm until about twenty years ago, when the sole partners—the late Mr. John Wilkinson and Mr. E. G. Hodge—acquired her portion of the concern. The firm dates back to 1744, and the name of Sotheby has been actively associated with the business for about a century.

THE Parliamentary Papers of the week include the New Contract for the Printing and Publishing of the Parliamentary Debates (1d.); Royal Military Academy, Woolwich, and Royal Military College, Sandhurst, Reports of the Boards of Visitors (2d. each); Education, England and Wales, Revised Regulations as to Certificates of Age, &c. (1d.); Report of the Departmental Committee on Defective and Epileptic Children, Vol. II., Evidence, &c. (2s. 4d.); and the Report of the Departmental Committee on the Pupil Teacher System, Vol. I. (8d.).

SCIENCE

THE LITERATURE OF ELECTRICITY.

Electricity and Magnetism for Beginners. F. W. Sanderson. (Macmillan & Co.)—This book is said to be for "beginners," but we cannot help thinking that Mr. Sanderson has had unusual experiences with his pupils. There are, we note, some 240 pages, in more or less small type, and few of them in our opinion suited for a "first course." We have four chapters to deal with. The first, on the subject of magnetism, is probably the best. Chap. ii. has "current electricity" for its theme. In a future edition at least a page

should be devoted here to secondary batteries. More sensitive instruments than the tangent galvanometer depicted on p. 84 should be described and used in the experiments here if distinct results are to be secured - such, for instance, as the Thomson astatic reflecting galvanometer. Some of the abbreviations galvanometer. Some of the abbreviations employed in this chapter are certainly not generally recognized. The author's definitions sometimes lack clearness, and we doubt if any boy at school could understand them. Any one engaged in practical electrical work would tell Mr. Sanderson that "megohm" and "microhm" should not be written in the way they are on p. 141. Again, on p. 114 the author appears to confuse electromotive force with potential difference; though closely connected, they are not the same. Chap. iii. deals with electrostatics. The apparatus described here is certainly not up to date, and is totally inefficient for obtaining good results. Atmospheric condition has a serious effect. For instance, ordinary glass legs by themselves cease to act as insulators to an instrument in damp surroundings. Surely it might have been worth while to describe the Wimshurst influence machine in addition to the electrophorus, which is but a primitive form of electrical machine. In other respects the section dealing with the electric field and lines of force is distinctly good. Chap. iv., on electromagnetism, shows a lack of proportion. Here we find far too much theoretical matter and far too few experimental and practical data, whilst several inventions of every day importance are very scantily noticed. The book is well furnished with exer-cises and numerical examples, and there are many strong features to be found in it; moreover, the style of production is quite worthy of its publishers. The arrangement, however, of dividing each chapter into sections, and these again quite separately into paragraphs, is one which still calls for an index, an item which is unfortunately absent.

The General, Commercial, and Mining Telegram Code. By C. Algernon Moreing and Frederick C. McCutcheon. (Clowes & Sons.) Trederick C. McCutcheon. (Clowes & Sons.)

— This ponderous, but handsomely bound volume contains 2204 pages, and is certainly the most exhaustive code dictionary (including a large supply of cipher words) for telegraph purposes that has yet been furnished. Moreover, there is a very complete index of the words used. Next we have table showing the similarity in the Moreover. a table showing the similarity in the Morse telegraphic signals for different letters, thus bringing to light possible errors in the transmission of messages, as well as likely mis-readings. A useful table setting forth the time at places in various parts of the world (compared with Greenwich time) is also supplied, which facilitates a convenient selection of time for telegraphing abroad. Again, an abundant list of banking, shipping, and railway companies, mining firms and appliances, &c., with suitable code words, forms a feature of this book. With the daily increase of mining business and mining communities this volume should have a public even larger than Mr. Moreing's previous and much smaller 'Mining and General Telegraphic Code,' which was more confined to the need of mining companies and mining engineers. The preface dilates somewhat lengthily, and with a certain amount of repetition, on the principles followed and the methods adopted in the selection and arrangement of words and phrases, with well-chosen examples. The index to words used in the code should assist the framer of a message to find as speedily as possible the word or phrase which most clearly represents the idea he wishes to convey, and will suggest to him other words very closely related to that which he first thinks of. These, in many instances, will enable him to select words which still more accurately represent his

The user of the code will thus, as a meaning. first step, be enabled to frame a draft message which is based upon words he knows to be in it, and his rough draft can be subsequently perfected by referring to the pages of the code. It may be that the most prudent and economical course for all who have occasion to use telegram codes is to equip themselves with the most complete one obtainable. Much time and trouble would be saved by doing so, for to possess the most complete and efficient telegram code is the way to secure the greatest economy of time, trouble, and money. The scope of the of time, trouble, and money. The scope of the book covers an exceedingly wide area, and the authors have carefully and exhaustively treated of the leading ideas embraced within this range, thereby placing the public in possession of a permanently useful medium of economical and secret telegraphic correspondence. We think, however, that the title-page and preface are too much intermingled amongst the advertisement pages, and vice versa. This should be seen to in the binding of future editions.

SOCIETIES.

ROYAL.—March 10.—Sir J. Evans, Treas. and V.P., in the chair.—The following papers were read: 'On the Rotation of Plane of Polarization of Electric Waves by a Twisted Structure,' and 'On the Production of a "Dark Cross" in the Field of Electromagnetic Radiation,' by Prof. J. C. Bose,—'An Extension of Maxwell's Electromagnetic Theory of Light to include Dispersion, Metallic Reflection, and Allied Phenomena,' by Mr. E. Edser,—'On the Relative Betardation between the Components of a Stream of Light produced by the Passage of the Stream through a Crystalline Plate, cut in any Direction with respect to the Faces of the Crystal,' by Mr. J. Walker,—and 'On the Relation between the Diurnal Range of Magnetic Declination and Horizontal Force, and the Period of Solar-Spot Frequency,' by Mr. W. Period of Solar-Spot Frequency, by Mr. W.

ASIATIC.—March S.—Lord Reay, President, in the chair.—Prof. E. D. Ross read a paper 'On Omar Khayyam,' which was based on an article by Prof. V. Schukovski, of St. Petersburg. The position held by Omar Khayyam in Persian literature was almost unique. The radical differences of thought and sentiment contained in the quatrains had given rise to the most varied ideas regarding him. By some he was considered an atheist and profligate, by others a contemplater of things divine and a teacher of moral purity. These inconsistencies were to be traced not to Omar himself, but to the collection of what are called his quatrains, and the fact was reiterated that the older the MS. the smaller was the number of quatrains found. Prof. Schukovski's researches into the subject had shown that eighty-two have been attributed to other authors. The absence hitherto of trustworthy information as to the life and surroundings of Omar adds to the difficulties of the question. The paper quoted several details of his life lately discovered and hitherto unpublished one of which portrayed Omar as a defender of "Greek science," famous for his knowledge of the Koran and the law.

Society of Antiquaries.—March 3.—Lord

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.—March 3.—Lord Dillon, President, in the chair.—This being an evening appointed for the election of Fellows, no papers were read.—Mr. Philip Norman, Treasurer, exhibited a curious carved medical signboard of the year 1623, long preserved at Poole, Dorset.—The following gentlemen were elected Fellows: Rev. John Robbins, D.D., and Messrs. A. G. Langdon, J. W. Ryland, A. S. Lawson, G. S. D. Murray, J. C. Hodgson, and B. F. Stevens.

March 10.—Lord Dillon, President, in the chair.
—Mr. J. W. Willis-Bund called attention to the destruction of certain parts of the ruins of Strata Florida Abbey, Cardiganshire, by the vicar of the parish, in order to provide building material for a new church. He accordingly moved the following resolution, which was seconded by the Bishop of Antiquaries of London is of opinion that every possible were should be taken to provent the further Antiquaries of London is of opinion that every sible means should be taken to prevent the fur destruction of the Abbey of Strata Florida, and that the attention of the Bishop of St. David's and the the attention of the Bishop of St. David's and the Archdeacon of Cardigan be called to the matter, and they be requested to use such influence as they possess to preserve the ruins from further destruction."
—Mr. F. James read a note on the discovery of Romano-British antiquities at Larkfield, near Maidstone.—Mr. E. M. Sympson reported the discovery in Liucoln Minster, on the recent removal of the organ, of the remains of a semi-octagonal flight of steps on the top of the organ-loft or "pulpitum," '98

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leading to a platform projecting eastwards, from which the Epistle and Gospel, &c., were sung on

which the Epistle and Gospel, &c., were sung on festivals.

Society of Literature.—March 9.—Mr. E. W. Brabrook, V.P., in the chair.—Mr. P. W. Ames, the Secretary, read a paper 'On Racial and Individual Temperaments.' After referring to the changed ideal of supreme excellence in literature from admiration of a chastened imagination and style to the recognition of genius as exhibited not only in sensitiveness and creative power, but in knowledge of the human mind, he defined the temperament of an individual as a quality of organization, manifested by well-defined peculiarities in man's physical, intellectual, and moral natures. The temperament of a race, or a community, is denoted by the prevailing characteristic which controls united action. The chief difference between disposition and temperament is that the former is variable and the latter permanent. The contention that the temperament is the outcome of the physical as well as of the psychical element in man was supported by the known and constant association between mind and body. Scientific psychology had abandoned the profit-less inquiry as to causation in either direction, and regarded neurosis and psychosis as phenomena really identical, and recognized that facial and other physical movement was an essential part of the passion it accompanies. An interesting illustration of the influence upon character of the physical organ is derived from the study of the cells of the cerebral cortex. Quotations illustrated the recognition of this intimate connexion of the body and the mind. It was the essence of fine art to represent every feeling with its appropriate manifestation. Racial and national temperaments were discussed, and the subjective Asiatic contrasted with the objective European. The national temperaments of the Germans, the Anglo-Saxons, the Scotch, Irish, and French, and also of the Jews, were described. Details were added of individual temperaments—the sanguine, nervous, &c.—and of temperament as manifested through the intellect and its treatment in

STATISTICAL .- March 15 .- Right Hon. Leonard H. COURTNEY, President, in the chair.—A paper was read by Miss Collet' On the Collection and Utilization of Official Statistics bearing on the Extent and Effects of the Industrial Employment of Women.'

by Miss Collet. On the Collection and Chilaration of Official Statistics bearing on the Extent and Effects of the Industrial Employment of Women.'

LINNEAN.—March 3. — Dr. St. George Mivart, V.P., in the chair.—Mr. F. Tufnail was admitted, and Dr. C. Symes and Prof. A. M. Edwards were elected Fellows.—Mr. T. Christy exhibited specimens of the mora nut of British Guiana (Dimorphandra mora, Schomb.), of which some had been lately introduced into London by colonial brokers as the kola nut (Cola acuminata). It appeared, however, on analysis that the former contains no caffeine, a product for which the latter is of definite commercial value. It remained to be ascertained whether the mora nut has any economic value.—Prof. W. A. Herdman read a paper by Mr. F. J. Cole, entitled 'Observations on the Structure and Morphology of the Cranial Nerves and Lateral Sense-Organs of Fishes, with Especial Reference to the Genus Gadus.' It contained the first description of the lateral-line organs of Gadus, and pit-organs were shown to be present. The author concludes that the lateral-line system of fishes was not originally metameric and that it has nothing to do with the branchial sense-organs. He regards it and the auditory organ as parts of a system, and their nerves (viz., the superficial ophthalmic, buccal, external mandibular, lateralis, and lateral-line nerves), together with the auditory, as of a series sui generis, and shows that the so-called lateral-line nerve of Petromyzon really belongs to the lateralis accessorius system (ramus lateralis trigemini, auct.), the morphology of which he fully describes. The paper dealt exhaustively both with the afore-mentioned and the subsidiary branches of the subject, which was treated in detail and historically, with an accompanying exhaustive bibliography.— Prof. Howes, discussing the subject drew attention to some observations of the cousins Sarasin and to the experimental work of Sewall, Steiner, Lee, and others upon the auditory apparatus of fishes, which supported the author's c

ance of the static and equilibrative functions, and thus further support the author's views.—Mr. G. Claridge Druce read a paper on the occurrence of Carex helvola, Blytt, in Britain, in which he gave an account of his discovery of this plant on Ben Lawers, Perthshire, in August, 1897. He found it growing in some abundance at an elevation of about 3,200 ft. Prof. Blytt and Dr. Christ, to whom specimens had been submitted, both agreed in naming it C. helvola, which by many botaniste was considered to be a hybrid. Prof. Blytt said that it grew with C. canescens and approximata (lagopina), but he had never found ripe fruit. Dr. Christ said: "Il me semble d'être une ancienne hybride fixe et plus ou moins stable." Mr. Druce could readily believe that C. helvola was a hybrid of which C. canescens was one parent, but he had more difficulty in stating definitely the name of the other. From the close resemblance borne by C. helvola to C. zahnii (an acknowledged hybrid of C. canescens, in one of its forms, with C.approximata, this combination might well be the origin of the Ben Lawers plant, but against that was the fact that the presence of C. approximata in the Breadalbanes had never been proved. C. echinata, on the contrary, was plentiful there, but Mr. Druce could see no positive evidence of the occurrence of that species in the foliage or inflorescence. He would have expected the offspring of two plants with nerved perigynia to have exhibited that character even in young specimens, as is shown in C. pseudo-helvola, an acknowledged hybrid of C. canescens and norvegica. The foliage, too, was slightly glaucous, a character not possessed by C. echinata. Although the Ben Lawers plant was less luxurient than Blytt's Nor. specimens, as is shown in C. pseudo-helvola, an acknowledged hybrid of C. canescens and norvegica. The foliage, too, was slightly glaucous, a character not possessed by C. cchinata. Although the Ben Lawers plant was less luxuriant than Blytt's Norwegian specimens, Mr. Druce was unable to separate it specifically from that plant.—Mesers. F. N. Williams and W. P. Hiern offered some remarks.—A report by the Rev. O. P. Cambridge upon the spiders collected by Mr. Fisher, of the Jackson-Harmsworth Polar Expedition, was then read. They consisted of three species, all of the genus Erigone, one of which had been previously described, though not figured, by Thorell, and another was new, but closely allied; the author proposes to call the latter £. fisheri. Mr. Michael remarked that Erigone. according to some writers, included the two later genera Neriene and Walckenners, in the view of others the former only. Out of about 150 known species nearly 100 had been found by Mr. Cambridge in Dorsetshire, so that the Arctic Arachnida were not so different from English types as might perhaps have been anticipated.

meteorological Phenomena' was delivered by Mr. A. W. Clayden, who gave details of his experiences as secretary of a committee of the British Association. He spoke of the great value of photographing for recording the movements of instruments and preserving records of unusual meteorological phenomena. It was suggested that meteorological phenomena it was suggested that meteorological society in securing such records. The phenomena of the lightning discharge as distinguished from those of a single flash were next described and illustrated, and some of the puzzles of lightning photographs alluded to. The lecturer stated that he had repeatedly found that a single discharge lasted several seconds. As for the "black" flashes shown in photographs, he described the steps by which, some years ago, he was led to the proof that they were merely a photographic phenomenon, but one which still remains unexplained. Passing on to cloud photography, the various methods were explained and illustrated. The method employed at Exeter by the lecturer for the measurement of cloud altitudes was also described; this differs from all other methods in using the sun as a reference point. Mr. Clayden then spoke of the difficulty in getting good pictures of cirrus clouds, and described the methods dependent on the polarization of the blue light of the sky; polarization had nothing to do with their efficiency, which was really due to a general lessening of brightness, which enabled the exposure to be properly judged.

Institution of Civile Enginees.—March 15.—

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—March 15.— Sir J. Wolfe Barry, President, in the chair.—The paper read was 'Calcium Carbide and Acetylene,' by Mr. H. Fowler.

Society of Engineers.—March 7.—Mr. W. Worby Beaumont, President, in the chair.—A paper was read by Mr. W. Fox, entitled 'Reservoir Embankments: with Suggestions for avoiding and remedying Failures.'

MATHEMATICAL.—March 10.—Prof. Elliott. President, in the chair.—Mr. A. N. Whitehead was admitted into the Society, and then read a paper on the geodesic geometry of surfaces in non-Euclidean

space.—Prof. W. Burnside next read a paper on linear homogeneous groups whose operations are permutable.—Mr. T. I. Dewar, in the absence of Prof. Greenhill, exhibited, with the aid of stereoscopes, some stereoscopic diagrams of pseudoelliptic catenaries and geodesics.—Lieut.-Col. Cunningham then communicated a short supplement to his paper on aurifeuillians (read at the February meeting).—The President contributed a short account of a paper by Mr. W. F. Sheppard on the calculation of the sum of the mth powers of a large number of magnitudes, and then (Lieut.-Col. Cunningham in the chair) read his paper on the transformation of linear partial differential operators by extended linear continuous groups.—Messrs. Berry and Macaulay also took part in discussions on the papers. the papers.

PHYSICAL.—March 11.—Mr. Shelford Bidwell, President, in the chair.—Prof. J. D. Everett made a communication 'On Dynamical Illustrations of certain Optical Phenomena.—Prof. R. A. Lehfeldt then read a paper 'On the Properties of Liquid Mistruse.

HUGUENOT.—March 9.—Mr. W. J. C. Moens, V.P., in the chair.—Mr. F. à Brassard and the Baronne de Chambrier were elected Fellows.—A paper by Mr. L. Gaches was read, entitled 'The Royal Lustring Company,' giving an account of the manufacture of silk in England from the time of James I. to that of Queen Anne.—Mr. W. Minet exhibited a Dutch silver beaker, two mercaux formerly belonging to the churches of La Mothest.-Heraye and St. Maixant in Poitou, and the original book of accounts of the Protestant Church of Guines, and gave a sketch of their history. of Guines, and gave a sketch of their history.

WEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.
Victoria Institute, 4½ — 'A New Babylonian Story of the Flood,'
Mr. T. G. Pinches.
Society of Arts, 8—'The Thermo-Chemistry of the Bessemer
Process,' Lecture II., Prof. W. N. Hartley. (Cantor Lee-

Society of Arts, 8.— The Thermo-Chemistry of the Ressemer Process, Lecture II. Prof. W. N. Hartley. (Cantor Lecture.)

Surveyors' Institution, 8.— 'It he Rent-Charge Recovery, Mr. H. M. Grellier.

Institute of British Architects, 8.— 'Heraldic Drawing and its for the control of British Architects, 8.— 'Heraldic Drawing and its leaves of the control of British Architects, 8.— 'Heraldic Drawing and its Rent Green of British Architects, 8.— 'Heraldic Drawing and its Rent Green of British Architects, 8.— 'Heraldic Drawing and its Rent Green of British Architects, 8.— 'Discussion on 'Calcium Carbide and Acetylene': Paper on 'Extraordinary Floods in Southern India, Mr. E. Wisoney.

C. R. Valentine. 'The Proparation of Meat Extracts,' Mr. C. C. Walentine. 'Geological, 8.— 'The Eoceane Deposits of Devon,' Mr. Clement Heid: 'On an Outlier of Cenomanian and Turonian near Honiton, with a Note on Holster altus, 8g.,' Mr. A. Jukes-Rowne; 'Cone-in-Cone: Additional Facts from Various 18. Royal Institution, 3.— 'Recent Researches in Magnetism and Diamagnostism,' Lecture IV., Prof. J. A. Fleming. (Tyndail Lecture). Royal, 4].

Institution of Electrical Engineers, 8.— 'Coxt of Genomation Carbide of Antiquaries, 8].— 'Courte Piste of the Parish of Lowthorpe, Yorks,' Mr. T. Royaton; 'A Recent Discovery of a Charlot-Burial of the Early Iron Age at Kilham, Yorks,' Mr. J. R. Mortimer. Society for the Encouragement of the Pine Arts.— 'The Middle Ages,' Mr. E. F. Jacques.

Physical, 5.— 'Circulation of the Residual Gassoon Matter in a Crookes Tube,' Mr. A. A. Campbell Swinton; 'Some Improvements in the Robots Austen Recording Pyrometer, and Notes on Thermoelectric Pyrometers,' Mr. A. Sianafold.

Hon,' Mr. H. O. Burich.

Royal Institution, 9.— 'Canterbury Cathedral,' the Dean of Canterbury.

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Royal Institution, 9.— 'Conterbury Cathedral,' the Dean of Canterbury.'

Science Gossiy.

The death of Mr. T. Kirk, a well-known New Zealand botanist, is announced. Of Scotch extraction, he passed the greater part of his extraction, he passed the greater part of his life in the colony, devoting his energies to the botany of the country and to the development of its resources. He was the discoverer of many new species, the description of which forms a necessary complement to the floras of Sir Joseph Hooker. He lectured on natural science at Wellington and at the School of Agriculture at Lincoln. For some years he acted as Chief Conservator of State Forests, and his 'Forest Flora' of New Zealand, published in 1889, constitutes his most useful work. It is a folio volume, with descriptions of the native trees and shrubs, with indications of their com-mercial value and of the means of utilizing them. He was also the author of numerous other monographs of standard value.

It will be remembered that that liberal patroness of astronomy Miss Catherine A. Bruce founded last year a gold medal to be awarded annually by the Astronomical Society of the Pacific for distinguished services to astronomy the award to be made without records. nomy, the award to be made without regard to nationality and irrespective of sex. The first

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of these has now been made to Prof. Simon Newcomb, whose scientific career has been passed at Washington, but who is (a fact probably not so well known) a native of Nova Scotia.

THE Accademia dei Lincei has chosen Prof. Eugenio Beltrami as President, in place of the lately deceased Prof. Brioschi. The new president of the most important scientific society in Italy, like his predecessor, is a mathematician. He is a native of Cremona, sixty-three years old, and has enriched his special branch of literature with a series of works on differential geometry, electricity, and magnetism. He is at present occupied with the editing of Leonardo da Vinci's 'Codice Atlantico.'

Mr. Young J. Pentland's list of spring announcements includes 'Diseases of the Heart,' by Dr. G. A. Gibson; a 'Text-Book of Medicine,' edited by the same; 'The Principles of Treatment,' by Dr. J. Mitchell Bruce; 'Text-Book of Physiology,' edited by Prof. E. A. Schäfer, vol. ii.; 'Renal Growths,' by Dr. T. N. Kelynack; and 'Diabetes Mellitus,' by Dr. R. T. Williamson.

SIR RICHARD QUAIN, Bart., F.R.S., who died at his house in Harley Street on March 13th, was born at Mallow, co. Cork, in 1816. He died President of the General Medical Council, and had all his life taken an active part in the discussion and promotion of legislation in relation to the medical profession. He had a very large practice as a physician, and his 'Medical Dictionary' was undoubtedly the best book of its kind when it appeared, and has been improved in later editions. His activity in public affairs was productive of much benefit to his profession. His medical writings were unimportant, but his 'Dictionary' will probably long preserve his name. It is a book serviceable to the general medical public, and intended for them rather than for physicians and teachers.

MR. MURRAY has in the press a book by Mrs. Awdry, wife of the Bishop of Japan. It is called 'Early Chapters in Science,' and will form an introduction to the various branches of science—the animal and vegetable kingdoms, chemistry, &c.—in a readable form for children and young people.

FINE ARTS

The Ruins and Excavations of Ancient Rome. By R. Lanciani. (Macmillan & Co.)

UNDER this title Prof. Lanciani has published a new book on the ancient topography of Rome, enriched with illustrations mostly new, such as the figures of the section of Servian's Agger and walls, the remains of public baths near S. Pudenziana, the ruins discovered in 1684 on the line of the Via Graziosa, the tepidarium of the bath of Diocletian before its transformation into the church of S. Maria degli Angeli, the excavations of 1827 at the temple of Mater Matuta from a sketch by Valadier, and so forth. The book, however, is not an original work, but only a compilation which shows all the ability of an archæologist who for about thirty years has occupied himself with the topography of ancient Rome.

It is true that in the preface Prof. Lanciani says that

"in writing the present volume the author does not intend to publish a complete manual of Roman topography, but only a companion book for students and travellers who visit the existing remains and study the latest excavations."

But such a work the author had already written in 'Ancient Rome in the Light of Recent Discoveries' and 'Pagan and

Christian Rome,' of which publications the new volume is almost a repetition.

The volume is divided into ten books, of which the first describes the fundamental lines of Roman topography, site, geology, configuration of soil, climate, rivers and springs, aqueducts, walls, and roads. The second chapter, "Geology," would have been better for development, a more complete description of the formation of the district in which the Eternal City is situated, not only because many travellers take an interest in the subject, but because it clears up facts which shed a brilliant

light on many ancient buildings.

In the chapter on the "Malaria and Climate" the author recalls his third chapter of 'Ancient Rome' ("The Sanitary Conditions of Rome"), adding, however, an interesting bibliography in which I should have been glad to see noted the valuable chapter on the site and climate in Bonghi's 'Storia di Roma,' vol. ii. pp. 459-82, in which, indeed, this all-important question is summed up.

In describing the old Pons Cestius the author seems to have forgotten the interesting discoveries which took place in 1887-89 during the demolition of the ancient bridge. At the left extremity—that opposite the Tiberine island—were found five layers of tufa blocks, forming part of the left pier of the original bridge, which was built in the last years of republican Rome by Lucius Cestius. To the bibliography, therefore, ought to have been added the Bollettino della Commissione Archeologica Comunale di Roma, 1889, p. 172, and the Mittheilungen des Kaiserlich Deutschen Archäologischen Instituts, 1889, p. 282.

The second book is devoted to the ruins and excavations of the Palatine, and the most noteworthy chapter is the second, describing the origin of the Palatine city, which is justly compared to the Terremare, i.e., the old stations of the prehistoric dwellers of Upper Italy, of one of which stations, the Terramara di Fontanellato, the plan is here supplied. But this opinion has been already expressed by other authors, and most recently by myself (from a new point of view, I believe) in my 'Manuale di Topografia di Roma Antica' (Milan, Hoepli, 1897, pp. 17-19).

Prof. Lanciani has identified the temple

of Augustus, or Augustæum, with the great brick building between the Vicus Tuscus and the temple of Castor, yet its shape and plan are quite different from the recognized type of a Roman temple. Judging instead from the method of the construction, I am inclined to think that the so-called Augustæum is the continuation or the vestibulum of Caligula's Palatine house, which fronted the Vicus Tuscus. Again, the circus-like edifice, 160 metres long, 47 wide, which separates the house of Augustus from the palace of Septimius Severus, has, by all writers on Roman topography, been till now recognized as a true stadium, and as such it has been described by the author in his 'Guida del Palatino,' and marked down in the plan of palaces of the Cæsars added to the fifth chapter of 'Ancient Rome.' But it seems that a recent study of Prof. Marx in the 'Jahrbuch des Deutschen Instit.' has persuaded Prof. Lanciani to recognize in it a xystus attached to the house of Augustus. I shall not discuss such a technical question on the present occasion, only I beg to observe that the author seems to have quite forgotten the new theory in the plan (fig. 40), in which the so-called xystus is styled, in capital letters, the "Stadium Palatinum."

Other readers will, I think, be as much astonished as I have been at not finding a description of the most important amongst the regions, i.e., the eighth. It is true that the author speaks warmly of it when he describes the Imperial forums and the monuments of the Roman Forum. But in the eighth region was included also the whole Capitoline Hill, on which he is absolutely silent, except as regards the temple of Jupiter Optimus Maximus. Nor can I quite understand the reason of the omission when I consider the great importance of that historic hill and the number of monuments erected on it, especially on the north cliff, where was the Arx with the celebrated temple of Juno Moneta. Of the latter many extremely important remains have been brought to light of late years, on the occasion of the works for the erection of the monument to King Victor Emmanuel. Some remains of walls of the Arx in opus quadratum were discovered, which might have been figured in one of the illustrations which form one of the principal merits of this monograph.

Special mention should be made of the pages (476-89) relating to the Pantheon of Agrippa, a topic of great interest since the important excavations of the winter of 1891-2. Prof. Lanciani remarks that the Pantheon deserves the name of the sphinx of the Campus Martius, because, in spite of its preservation, it remains inexplicable from many points of view. It is almost a miracle that such a temple should have escaped ruin and destruction, and remain at the present day in so wonderful a state of preservation. And yet there have always been many controversies about the date of its construction and its architectural details. The Pantheon was built by Agrippa; the inscription confirms this in a wonderfully clear manner, and it would be folly to deny it; but during the last few years many doubts have arisen about the epoch of its original construction, from the investigations made by Prof. Dressel in 1885 concerning the seals stamped on the bricks of the monument with consular dates of the age of Hadrian. During the summer of 1890 M. Dell arrived at the conclusion that the whole circular building of the Pantheon was a reconstruction made under Hadrian. This has been amply proved by the researches made in the interior of the temple by M. George Chedanne during the winter of 1891-2, which were aided and continued by the Ministry of Public Instruction. The seals stamped on the bricks taken from the dome, and even the foundations, have invariably brought to light a series of dates which bring us to the epoch of Hadrian. But the most interesting and splendid discovery was the finding, just under the portico itself, of a magnificent substructure of travertine of a rectangular shape-remains which I was the first to attribute to the original temple of Agrippa, which was rectangular and not round, and faced the south instead of the north. The portico

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certainly was not built by Agrippa, and as Prof. Lanciani writes:—

"If we read on the face of the Pantheon the name of Agrippa, the founder, and of Septimius Severus, the restorer, in 202 B.C., and not that of Hadrian, the explanation is ready at hand. Hadrian never inscribed his name on the monuments which he designed and raised, with the exception only of the temple which he dedicated to Trajan. So says his biographer (chap. xix.), and the omission of the name is thus easily explained."

I am very glad that my views about the discoveries of 1891-2 have been fully adopted by Prof. Lanciani, who has, very properly, added (fig. 185) the plan of the first in red and of the later Pantheon in black, in which plan very clearly appears the circular building enclosed by a wall of reticulated work of Agrippa's time, on the circumference of which was erected, in the second century, Hadrian's rotunda.

The book ends with the fourteenth region

Transtiberian—the great parks on the west side of the city, the Horti Cæsaris, Horti Getæ, Horti Agrippinæ, the mausoleum of Hadrian, the Excubitorium Cohortis II. Vigilum. But I have looked in vain for a description of one of the most important monuments of the Transtiberine region, i. c., the magnificent tomb of C. Sulpicius Platorinus, discovered in May, 1880, near the Farnesina Gardens, and illustrated by the author in 'Notizie degli Scavi' and in his 'Pagan and Christian Rome.' Probably he was unwilling to repeat what he had said in his previous books. Still, I cannot help regretting his reticence, as last year several architectural fragments of that splendid tomb were found in the Orto Botanico in the Via Lungara, and besides these two highly interesting fragments of inscriptions which mention historical persons of the time of Augustus and Tiberius who were related by ties of kinship to Sulpicius Platorinus. It is difficult to conceive how these fragments have remained unknown for so long, as Signor Lanciani personally directed the excavation; and it is remarkable that they were left forgotten in the Orto Botanico for seventeen years. That was a scurvy trick of fate. The volume ends with tables of the existing remains described in chronelogical order. In this the author has followed, though with corrections and additions, the pamphlet brought out by the late Mr. John Henry Parker, 'A Chronological Table of Buildings of Rome, with the Chief Contemporary Events.'

I have ventured to make sundry criticisms on matters of detail, and therefore I feel it incumbent on me to add that Signor Lanciani's work will be very popular, and is sure to reach a second edition. It is a book that ought to be found on the desk of every student and lover of Roman antiquities.

Luigi Borsari.

THE INSTITUTE OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.

DESPITE the large number of pictures to be seen, the current exhibition of this unequally constituted society is the best we have examined in respect to freshness and originality. Perhaps the most meritorious and ambitious exhibitor is Mr. J. Gulich, hitherto better known as a designer in black and white than as a painter proper. Traces of this previous training are the chief defects in *The Violin Concerto* (No. 435).

Abounding in energy, pathos, and oetry, it exceeds in the blackness of its half tints and tones, as well as in the lack of breadth and simplicity of the principal figure, a damsel, who, backed by a whole orchestra, plays upon her violin with an inspiration which is thoroughly and sympathetically expressed. Fine as this figure is, too much is made of the immeasurable white train of her gown, in which, by an almost palpable artifice, it is set and surrounded. The semi-diaphanous form of the laurel-bearing Fame behind the performer is out of keeping with a realistic design, and wanting in beauty, like the player herself.

Except that the features of Sir J. Linton's Roses (14) are—an unusual fault with him—a little out of drawing, the nearly life-size head of a fair and stately modern lady with a bowl of flowers in her hands is admirable, while the whole powerful work is better than some of his later exhibits have been. There is some lack of vitality in the expression, which fails in giving pathos or a charm of any sort to a design which, at its best, is simply a specimen of rare accomplishments zealously and faithfully employed. Similarly lacking animation, and, with it, a stirring raison d'être, is the learned, rich, and brilliant work by Sir James, Portia sending the Letters to her Cousin (245), the colour of which, apart from some blackness in the shadows, is first rate. Jacqueline (357), by the same, does not move us deeply, but it is good art.—There is sincere emotion, of the dramatic sort, in Mr. E. C. Clifford's picture of rustics staring at a forlorn woman who, with her baby, has come among them; called The Stranger (133), it is well and carefully painted.—Well modelled, expressive and fresh, though somewhat lacking in variety of colour, is Mr. L. Davis's head and bust of a lady reading by lamplight, The Note (102).—A larger number of such drawings as the above, all of which show scholarship and searching study, would go far to redeem modern exhibitions from their worst reproach.

Mr. F. W. Davis's capital picture of The Last Chapter (76) only wants more solidity and variety of tone and colour to be one of the best pieces here. In respect to the pathos and expressiveness of the figures of an old couple there is nothing to be desired. It is an anticlimax that the man's legs are open to question, while the background is weak, and adds nothing to the force or poetry of the picture.—Very pretty, sweet, and neat is Mr. C. E. Wilson's Caught (264), a girl entangled by a briar; her face and action are charmingly natural. The Miller's Daughter (350), a girl fishing in a mill pool, by the same hand, demands our praises on the same grounds. These are the best of Mr. Wilson's works we have seen.—The Sea Nymph (199), by Mr. A. P. Burton, a whole-length and graceful nudity reclining on the sands in an effect which may be called monochromatic, is, though needlessly thin and flat, very good and artistic indeed.—Perhaps the best piece of its kind here in technical respects and design, a first-rate specimen of that anecdotic genre in which modern illustrating artists hope for their future and fame, is Mr. W. D. Almond's Camille Desmoulins (373). Desmoulins's face is true to the life; his action and air, the expression of his features, and even the colour of his coat, are all that they should be. On the other hand, the whole picture wants grading, and is therefore flat and thin, while the accessories and minor figures needed more research and study.

Mr. H. M. Livens's Fowls (361) show spirited, broad, and highly artistic treatment. — A charming idyl, proving the painter to be Mason's heir, is Mr. G. Wetherbee's little land-scape with figures, The Shepherd (453). The finely grouped trees which give force to the foreground and the gleaming white cliff in the distance help to make up one of the most luminous and poetic paintings in an exhibition where

realism is decidedly predominant. Another excellent example of poetic feeling by the same hand is A Lonely Shore (179), which excels in the warm, soft opal scenes of the more distant sky, and reminds us of Heer Israëls at his best, while its colouring is purer and more jewellike.

We may now study the minor figure-pictures. In Mr. G. G. Kilburne's Dinner Time (5) the neatly and firmly drawn figure of a lady feeding dogs on a lawn is even better than the dogs themselves, while the house behind the group is weak and thinly painted.—Mr. W. H. Weatherhead's Helping Hands (39) is praiseworthy for its figures and the skilful painting of an interior. Although his At the Cottage Door (558) is nearly as good as the last named, his other numerous contributions prove that he suffers from over-production .-Coarsely painted and rather crude, Mr. H. von Bartels's Waiting for the Fishing Boats (48) shows with force and sympathy the pain and anxiety of a young matron who, during a furious storm, lingers with her babe at a pierhead. This is a remarkable outcome of "modern" teaching in that school of Munich in which the painter is a leading light.—Mr. R. Holyoake's design illustrating the troubles of Jonas Hanway with his First Umbrella (54) is full of spirit, and, despite its slightness, much better painted than usual.—Rather flat and with fairly well-drawn horses is Mr. P. Macquoid's After the drawn horses is Mr. P. Macquoid's After the Day's Work (69), a farmyard scene at evening.

—Clever in an "old-fashioned" way is Mr. F. W. W. Topham's Time expired, a Judyment of Paris (84), Italian girls at a fountain with a rustic Paris to award the apple; it is a pity the competitors are so commonplace and tame, their Paris not vigorous. The Broken Pitcher (483) proves that Mr. Topham paints as all the Tophams do or did, and neither better nor stronger than the ablest of his family.—A group of black bears in a wood, called Among the Dead Falls (125), by Mr. E. Caldwell, is much to his credit. —Mr. H. R. Steer has caught the spirit and much of the humour of Mr. Pepys's description of painting Mrs. Pepys's Portrait (146) by Mr. Hales, while "Knipp, Mercer, and I sang," as the diarist said. The picture, though wanting in force of tone and richness of colour, is excellent anecdotic art of the more modest sort. If, instead of eight pieces of the sort, Mr. sort. If, instead of eight pieces of the sort, Mr. Steer were to content himself with four in, say, a whole year, it would be all the better for his future. — Herring (191) is a first-rate, well-drawn, and well-coloured picture of opalescent fish by Mrs. E. F. Grey. —Nautilus, Ammonite, and Minerals (231), by Miss K. M. Whitley, is a brilliant example of realistic painting of the highest finish, but it is hard, and not composed as a picture should be.—Mr. Mottram's girl Shelling Peas (241) excels in the painting of the Shelling Peas (241) excels in the painting of the old brick walls behind the figure, which is also praiseworthy. — A girl musing by firelight, which Mr. C. A. Smith calls By the Fireside (285), is a clever specimen of the humblest form of genre, and, though effective, is rather hard and mechanical.—In a broad, rather rough way Mr. E. Bundy's Market Day (312) contains, Mr. E. Bundy's Market Day (312) contains, with several commendable figures, a few very quaint and spirited renderings of character. He has never painted so well before.—Mr. H. J. Stock's Miss Page (323) is a very good and pathetic portrait of an elderly lady.—Mr. F. Spencer's In the Library (346) comprises a group of books such as he often paints. It is softer and more homogeneous than usual and better composed.—Mr. L. Block has chosen a similar subject in No. 355 in which has chosen a similar subject in No. 355, in which the composition, which seems to have been fortuitous, is formal rather than scientific or artistic.—Mr. B. Wollen has given us in *Idle* Moments (396), troopers resting near a roadside, a spirited but rather uninteresting example of his skill, in which the horses are the better parts.

The landscapes include many capital instances

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by painters of more or less note. Very solid, skilfully drawn, and rich in its effect and lighting is Mr. J. Fulleylove's Hôtel de Ville, Bruzelles (1). Equally good are his fine drawings of antique ruins in Greece, such as The Parthenon from the Propylea (42), which, with the glow of early morning, renders the richly varied golden-brown time has bestowed.

The Caryatid Portico of the Erechtheum (153) is still better in its rare sense of style, breadth, and brilliance. The Acropolis and Temple of Theseus, Athens (480), belongs to the same group of pictures, which are as firm and exact as they well can be, with none of the formality and mechanical prose of mere archi-tectural transcripts. Mr. Fulleylove also contributes some fine studies of famous Low-Country civic buildings; they are No. 273, Bruxelles from the Law Courts; Flesh and Bread Street, Bruxelles (369); and Hôtel de Ville, Bruxelles (410).—No. 2 is Mr. F. Walton's The Land's End and the Longships, where the cliffs and rocks are too hot in their local colours, and the sea itself is flat, but the general effect is charming.—Miss J. Hall's Light lingering on the Fold (7) is a pleasing study of the afterglow.—Mr. G. S. Walter's In Portsmouth Harbour (15), with ships at anchor, is a soft and tender study of silvery sunset.— In A Flowery Mead (17) is Mr. G. Aumonier's rather rough but well-composed group of cottages on a common, which have the real rural flavour. On this account, as well as because of their sound draughtsmanship, brightness, and variety, the visitor should look at At Evening, Old Chain Pier, Brighton (27); the luminous and harmonious A Chalk Cliff (249); and Nos. 424, 532, 573, 575, and 606, all by the same.—Mr. J. Towers's Midsummer, Perwick Bay (53), gives broadly, simply, and sincerely a rocky coast and calm sea, but it is rather too low in colour.—Mr. J. White's The Old Mill (40), in sunlight, is very broad and sound.—A fine drawing is Mr. E. Parton's By Quiet Waters (67), a calm pool and trees drawn in a sober and finely graded style.—We like much Mr. E. Davies's An October Afternoon (81), which is powerful and strong in colour, though

it lacks atmospheric gradations. Also worth notice are Mr. T. Muir's A Bend of the Cluny (86); Mr. R. B. Nisbet's Waiting for the Tide, Stonehaven (106), a somewhat black ish and opaque study of twilight passing into night; Mr. W. E. Corbould's A Quiet Corner (136); Mr. G. S. Walters's Oystermouth (137); Mr. A. H. Enock's Dittisham Boats starting for Dartmouth Market (178), a charming study of the Dart in a vista just after sunrise; Mr. A. East's Haverstock Hill (187); and Mr. C. W. Fother-gill's Cleve Abbey (188), Gothic ruins in bright sunlight, which is firm and brilliantly coloured. Original and bright are Mr. A. Parsons's Clematis Montana at Tresserve (221) and Mr. Y. King's Bridge on the Stour (233).—Mr. A. Parsons's A Savoy Garden (256) has grandeur in the drawing of the distant mountains.-Good colour firm handling appear in Mr. W. T. M. Hawksworth's interior, with ancient brown pews, of An Old City Church (293).—Mr. F. G. Cotman sustains the honours of his name and family with There's Mischief in the Sky (313), and Mr. D. Green is fortunate in A Freshening Brieze (339).—Acceptable also are Mr. H. S. Stannard's The Bridle-way (364), Miss K. M. Whittey's After Sunset (444), Mr. E. Parton's Along the Avon (445), Mr. S. Lloyd's Autumn Evening (437), Mr. C. J. Adams's "The lowing herd winds slowly o'er the lea" (528), Mr. C. Hayes's Still Snowing (546), horses in snow, Mr. R. B. Nisbet's Stormy Day on the East Coast (555), Mr. H. E. James's An Old Street, Amesbury (552), Mr. J. R. Reid's Pet of the Farmyard (553), and Mr. T. M. Hemy's Portloe, Cornwall (561).

SALE.

Messes. Christie, Manson & Woods sold on the 12th and 14th inst. the following pictures: Portrait of Blanche, Daughter of Henri IV., 162l. Honthorst, Portrait of a Lady, in black dress with puffed sleeves, 115l. C. Janssens, Portrait of a Lady, in blue dress with brown scarf and white sleeves, 315l.; Portrait of a Gentleman, in armour (said to be Montrose), 126l. Zucchero, Portrait of Lady Arabella Stuart, 24ll. B. Canaletto, Verona, view on the river, 840l. H. Minderhout, A Naval Battle, 504l. F. Cotes, Portrait of Elizabeth Wells, 115l. Lucas van Leyden, The Adoration of the Magi, 147l. M. Hondecoeter, A Cock and Chickens, ducks and ducklings on the left, and A Cock and Poultry, a jay flying above, 204l. S. Ruysdael, A Dutch River Scene, 110l.

fine-Art Cossip.

THE Committee formed for securing a collection of the late Lord Leighton's studies and sketches for the nation has already acquired a considerable number, which are placed on the walls of his studio. The sketch-books also, which are of unique importance and were greatly valued by Lord Leighton, will no doubt be deposited there when the new Com-mittee now being constituted for the purpose has raised the necessary funds to establish the house permanently as a national art museum and library. The whole series is, we believe, preserved intact. It may, however, be well to mention that two of them, owing to some blunder, found their way into the auction of Lord Leighton's property at Christie's, and were advertised the other day by a bookseller, who had picked them up in a miscellaneous "lot." They were luckily rescued in time, and are now in the possession of the Leighton House Com-If any others went astray (which is, we hope, unlikely), the purchasers would do a great service by reporting them at once to the Committee, of which Mr. Russell Barrington (4, Melbury Road, W.) is hon. secretary.

Mr. CALDERON's indisposition, which has now troubled him for some time, will compel him to be unrepresented in the forthcoming Royal Academy exhibition.

Mr. Alma Tadema has returned from the Riviera, and, despite an attack of influenza which he incurred immediately on his recent arrival at Cannes, is much better in health than he has been for some time past. All our readers will regret to hear that Mrs. Alma Tadema, though better than she was, still remains in the Riviera to complete her recovery from a similar attack.

THE Print Room has lately acquired a very fine and interesting drawing in chalks on blue paper by Sir Joshua Reynolds, being a nearly life-size head portrait of John Astley, the painter, 1730-1787.

News comes from Mentone of the death of Mr. Aubrey Beardsley. Born as recently as 1874, he had already achieved a name and a style of his own. His obvious faults we have had occasion to deplore; but though he seemed to have unduly immolated himself on the altar of the grotesque, his talents were unmistakable, and he drew with a power of line, an originality, and a fantastic frankness which might have gone far if he had lived.

WE have also to note the death of Sir William Fraser, late Deputy-Keeper of the Records of Scotland, who was a distinguished antiquary, and issued several local Scotch histories of importance.

For some years past Bristol artists have tried to arouse more West-Country interest in the Bristol Academy, and on Saturday, at the opening of their spring exhibition, they unselfishly gave up the central salon of their galleries to pictures sent by some of the

best-known English artists, reserving space for their own members' work in the lesser salons. The Bristol Academy now numbers amongst its members several R.W.S. and R.B.A. men, and Prof. Herkomer and Sir Wyke Bayliss have recently become members. Yet another step has been taken to awaken an interest in art in Bristol. The permanent collection, the nucleus of a public gallery, is to be lent to some of the poorer districts of the city whilst the Academy is occupied with the spring exhibition, and to increase this collection all the Bristol artists have agreed to present an example of their own work.

Le Monde Elégant of Nice, which rarely exceeds in its sense of humour, while describing the numerous pictures which, according to his kindly wont, M. Gambart has lent to decorate Her Majesty's residence in the South,

"Dans la chambre à coucher de Sa Majesté: 'Le Christ au milieu des Docteurs de la loi,' par Holman Hunt et les vierges: 'Mater Dolorosa' et 'Mater Purissima,' par Fred. Goodall, R.A."

THE twelfth exhibition of the Ridley Art Club, which is held in the Grafton Galleries from today (Saturday), will continue open until Saturday next, inclusive.

It will be good news to lovers of ancient Low Country painting that the Direction des Beaux-Arts has instructed M. Léopold Flameng to engrave Hugo Van der Goes's famous triptych, the most thoroughly accredited work of that most interesting master, 'The Adoration of the Magi,' which is in the Hospital of Sta. Maria Novella at Florence.

The Balkan Commission of the Academy of Sciences of Berlin has recently received an interesting report from Drs. Bormann and Kalinka, who had been deputed to carry on antiquarian researches in Bulgaria. Besides discovering various antiquities dating from the fourth and fifth centuries B.C., they examined a vast tropeum erected by Trajan and a recently unearthed mausoleum of Roman soldiers.

THE French architect M. B. R. Léon Genain, who was a member of the Institut and professor in the Ecole des Beaux-Arts, is dead, aged seventy-two years.

THE Brera Gallery, Milan, has acquired, says the Chronique des Arts, a fine Virgin, enthroned, with the Child, and accompanied by three saints. It is signed "Opus Tome Aleni Cremon MCCCCC." This painter is known as Fadino.

THE Punic necropolis lately discovered near Carthage, according to the report of P. Delattre, exactly resembles that of Sidon. That is to say, the tombs consist of chambers hollowed in the rocks, with access to them by means of a rectangular shaft. Each shaft is provided with incisions on the right and left, thus enabling a man to climb up and down. Some double-handled urns with Punic inscriptions were found in the chambers. One of the inscriptions was a dedication to the goddesses Astarte and Tanit. Four interesting terra-cottas were also brought to light, with subjects painted in various colours: one represented a Numidian rider, another a female playing a double flute before a veiled goddess.

MUSIC

THE WEEK.

QUEEN'S HALL.—Philharmonic Concerts.
ST. JAMES'S HALL.—Messrs, Greene and Borwick's Recital.
QUEEN'S HALL.—Symphony Concerts.
ST. JAMES'S HALL.—Popular Concerts.
QUEEN'S HALL.—Popular Concerts.
ALBERT HALL.—Royal Choral Society.

THE Philharmonic Society, which entered upon its eighty-sixth season on Thursday last week, will have to take heed lest its reputation should suffer, after nearly a century of service to musical art, by reason of the 98

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far amateurs show no symptom of lukewarm feeling towards the association, the attendance at the opening concert being very large; but to observant musicians there were not wanting signs calculated to provoke a feeling of disquietude. The Philharmonic strings are, perhaps, as fine as ever, though they did not sound to advantage in Beethoven's 'Pastoral' Symphony, the rendering of this familiar work being tame and perfunctory in a painful measure. Mr. Hamish MacCunn's ballet airs from 'Diarmid' cannot be regarded as a wise choice, for apart from the stage the music is slightly suggestive of vulgarity, and as it was not rendered with sufficient refinement under the Scottish comsumment remement under the Scottish composer's direction, it failed to make much impression. The best orchestral performance of the evening was that of Goldmark's overture 'Im Frühling,' Op. 36, which was, strangely enough, stated to be the first in England. As a matter of fact, the piece was introduced at a Crystal Palace concert just eight years ago, and repeated in a Richter programme three months later. We spoke highly of it in 1890, and see no reason to modify our opinion, for it is an exceedingly bright, picturesque work, redolent of the sights and sounds of spring. Herr Rosenthal being unable to fulfil his engagement as pianist in consequence of an injury to one of his hands, the directors were fortunate in being able to secure the services of Miss Fanny Davies, who selected Chopin's unsatisfactory Concerto in F minor, commonly known as No. 1, but according to all trustworthy evidence the second in the order of composition. Chopin was no master of orchestration, and though many themes and episodical passages give conclusive proof that the Polish master had perfect knowledge of the pianoforte, he almost invariably treated the orchestra in a way that can be only described as amateurish. The score of the F minor Concerto has been retouched by Klindworth with reverential hands, and yet his edition is rejected by many of those with whom pedantry rather than musicianship is a prevailing tendency. Miss Davies was technically perfect and intelligent in the solo part of the concerto, and this is high praise, considering that she undertook the duty at brief notice. Miss Clara Butt is scarcely fulfilling expectations as a contralto vocalist. Gifted by nature with a voice of exceptional power and brilliancy, and instructed under excellent preceptors at the Royal College of Music, Miss Butt has failed as yet to secure the position to which her natural endowments should entitle her, and Goring Thomas's air, "My heart is weary," from 'Nadeshda,' did not receive complete justice, the noble voice being produced with poverty in respect of method. The major part of the concert was conducted by Sir Alexander Mackenzie.

The second of Messrs. Plunket Greene and Leonard Borwick's song and pianoforte recitals, which took place on Friday after-noon last week, was not less successful than the first. The excellent vocalist sang the whole of Schumann's 'Liederkreis,' consisting of twelve Lieder, the majority of them in the composer's most inspired manner, though they are tinged with melancholy owing to Eichendorff's words. An English trans-

keen competition now prevailing in respect to orchestral concerts of the highest class. So provided, but Mr. Plunket Greene wisely adhered to the original text. Later in the programme he contributed a group of six songs by English, or, at any rate, British composers, the names being S. Liddle, M. V. White, W. Y. Thirlstone, Mary Carmichael, Charles Wood, and Battison Haynes. This was an interesting selection; and Mr. Leonard Borwick's contributions to the entertainment were not less worthy, comprising Mozart's Sonata in D major (Köchel, No. 576), Bach's 'Italian' Concerto, in which the master's text was rigidly observed, and five minor pieces by Brahms numbered respectively Opp. 76, 118, and 119. We are glad to note that a third recital will be given on Friday afternoon next week, with an equally well-arranged

To-day the Saturday afternoon Symphony Concerts at the Queen's Hall will close for the season. The penultimate programme last week included Mendelssohn's 'Scotch' Symphony, Brahms's 'Academic' Overture, and the new Venusberg Music from 'Tannhäuser,' all of which were impressively interpreted under the direction of Mr. Henry Wood. An overture, to which has been affixed the title of 'The Taming of the Shrew,' by Mr. Percy Pitt, confirmed the favourable impression previously made by this young musician, who has evidently pursued his studies with success at Leipzig and Munich. He had already gained highly favourable notices by his compositions, chiefly instrumental, and the Shakspearean overture will not detract from his budding reputation. The ideas of the termagant, of Petruchio, and eventual happiness for the apparently ill-assorted pair are vividly expressed, and the whole is welded into a symmetrical overture, well planned, richly scored, and noteworthy for inventiveness as well as musicianly details. Wagner's Venusberg Music from the Paris version of 'Tannhäuser' and Mendelssohn's 'Scotch' Symphony were admirably played, and M. Achille Rivarde was fairly successful in Beethoven's Violin Concerto, making allowance for the fact that the interpretation of this essentially German masterpiece lacked something in breadth and manliness, though not in earnestness. Mr. Herbert Grover was not heard to advantage in Beethoven's 'Adelaide,' for the composer's original directions were not observed, the words being essayed in Italian and the pianoforte accompaniment played by the orchestra. The famous love song should not be attempted unless it is to be presented under more favourable conditions.

Herr Joachim being engaged at the Crystal Palace, the leadership at the Popular Concert last Saturday afternoon devolved upon Herr Kruse, the first work in the programme being Schubert's Quartet in p minor, which, in consequence of the masterly variations on the *Lied* 'Der Tod und das Mädchen,' is far more popular than the companion Quartet in G, though that, on the whole, is the finer of the two. Miss Liza Lehmann's exceedingly well-considered and tasteful cycle of songs, 'In a Persian Garden,' went very well with Mrs. Hutchinson, Madame Marian McKenzie, Mr. Ben Davies, and Mr. Arthur Walenn as the vocalists, and the composer at the pianoforte. Brahms's cheerful Pianoforte and Violin Sonata in A, Op. 100, was also included in the programme, the pianist being Miss Adela Verne, whose solo contribution consisted merely of two of Domenico Scarlatti's one-movement sonatas-a poor share in the entertainment.

On Monday the Joachim Quartet, consisting of the master after whom it is named, and Herren Kruse, Wirth, and Hausmann, appeared for the first time this season, and, by what might fairly be considered an error of judgment, there was no pianoforte music, the instrumental portion of the programme consisting of three string quartets, namely, Beethoven's in c sharp minor, Op. 131; Brahms's fine and cha-racteristic work in B flat, Op. 67; and Haydn's in 6, Op. 17, No. 5. In all of these the ensemble was perfect—that is to say, the balance of tone and phrasing of the artists offered no loophole for adverse criticism. Special admiration must be accorded to the interpretation of Beethoven's severely intellectual work, which can only be appreciated at its value if the executants are in full sympathy with one another. Mr. Meux revived an exceedingly effective recitative and air for Rinaldo from Gluck's 'Armida,' and also displayed his fine bass voice and cultivated style in French songs by D'Erlanger and Gounod. The Joachim Quartet will remain until the close of the

For reasons unassigned the programme of the Lamoureux Concert on Tuesday evening underwent considerable changes from the original announcements which had been made. It was to have included Berlioz's 'Symphonie Fantastique,' 'La Mort d'Ophélie,' by Bourgault-Ducoudray, and a selection from Beethoven's 'Prometheus,' but not one of these items was retained. The symphony actually given was Beethoven's in A, No. 7, and the interpretation of this was very striking, every detail being brought out with almost startling cleanage the Occasion. startling clearness, the Queen's Hall orchestra surpassing, if possible, all its previous efforts this season. Wieniawski's Violin Concerto in p minor, Op. 22, is a favourable example of what may be termed virtuoso concertos, and it was played with such delightful refinement by the young Bostonian violinist Miss Leonora Jackson that we should be glad to hear this able executant in works of a higher class. The vocalist, Mlle. Lina Pacary, made an unexpectedly favourable impression. We say un-expected, because her appearances at Covent Garden last season did not afford much ground for hope that she would prove entirely satisfactory in such items as Wagner's 'Träume' and the final scene from 'Götterdämmerung.' However, she came out of the ordeal with great credit, her voice being a genuine dramatic soprano, full and rich in the medium register; and although she sang in French, there was no suggestion of Gallic idiosyncrasies in her interpretation of the German music. Mlle. Pacary's success was decisive, and as the orchestra was superb, the Wagnerian excerpts proved very enjoyable. The last two Lamoureux Concerts for the present are fixed for April 20th and May 4th, and both are to be "plébiscite" programmes.

The most interesting concert of the Royal

Choral Society at the Albert Hall this season took place on Wednesday evening, the works presented being Beethoven's 'Ruins of Athens' and a new cantata 'The Gate of Life,' by Franco Leoni. Written for the opening of a German theatre at Pesth in 1812, the Bonn master's work, which was originally in dramatic form, has had a chequered existence. Bartholomew's version, produced in 1846 at the former Princess's Theatre in Oxford Street, was a curious medley, and from time to time isolated numbers, or the greater portion of the score, have been heard in London concertrooms, the last performance, if recollection serves, being at the Shoreditch Town Hall, by the Hackney Choral Association under Prof. Ebenezer Prout. The new edition, just published by Messrs. Novello, Ewer & Co., contains the whole of Beethoven's music, that is to say, it has the Interlude, No. 5, and the Recitative, No. 6, not previously published in England. Kotzebue's dialogue has been eliminated, and the work has been thrown as far as possible into the form of a cantata. It is needless to state that the music of 'Die Ruinen von Athen' does not display Beethoven in a lofty mood, the master keeping in his lightest manner from the first bar to the last. Consequently there was no serious strain on the executants on Wednesday, and the choral numbers were rendered with power and spirit, the favourite dervishes' chorus being, of course, encored. Sir Frederick Bridge conducted with the requisite aplomb, to use a French term for which there is no exact English equivalent. 'The Gate of Life,' directed by its composer, is a brief and effective dramatic cantata, based by Mr. Shapcott Wensley on Mr. William Ware's 'Rome and the Early Christians: Letters from Rome in the Third Century.' The literary foundation of Signor Leoni's work is slight, embodying merely the protest of a Christian pair, Probus and Portia, against paganism, and their death in the arena. The music is mainly in the modern Italian style as regards phrasing and orchestration, and is written in a manner that cannot fail to prove grateful to performers. Miss Esther Palliser, Mr. Ben Davies, and Mr. Andrew Black were the soloists at this concert, and, their duties being light, it is scarcely necessary to say that they were satisfactorily performed.

Musical Gossip.

THE most important item in Mr. Mark Hambourg's second pianoforte recital at St. James's Hall on Thursday afternoon last week was Schumann's Fantasia in c, Op. 17, one of the finest, as it is one of the most difficult, compositions ever penned for the instrument. In a technical sense the interpretation was admirable, though there was a want of the combined sentiment and intellectuality which are so needful for the due expression of Schumann's masterpieces for the pianoforte. The young artist's fine execution was shown more satisfactorily in various pieces by Bach, Scarlatti, Tschaïkowsky, Leschetizky, and Rubinstein.

THE reopening of the Salle Erard has now been settled for the 2nd prox. with a concert in which M. Paderewski will take part. The room as newly arranged seems well adapted for highclass chamber concerts.

A concert arranged by Miss Janotha, for a charitable purpose, will take place at St. James's Hall on June 17th. One of Bach's rarely-heard concertos for three claviers will be revived, the executants being the concert-giver, Lady Randolph Churchill, and Mrs. Craigie.

A SCHUMANN concert was given at South Place Institute last Sunday evening, the programme including the 'Liederkreis,' Op. 39, sung by Mr. Plunket Greene; the Quartet in F, Op. 41, No. 2; and the Pianoforte Quintet in E flat, Op. 44. The current series of these excellent concerts will end on April 3rd with a Brahms programme.

THE Alexandra Palace is, it is said, to be once more reopened, and music will be a prominent feature in the enterprise. The 'Messiah' will be performed on Good Friday afternoon.

GENUINE autograph letters of eminent musicians show a steady increase in value when submitted for public sale. Recently in Vienna two letters of Beethoven to the unworthy nephew who embittered the closing years of the master's life fetched 32l. each. Autographs by Haydn and Wagner realized commensurate

PERFORMANCES NEXT WEEK.

PERFORMANCES NEXT WEEK.

Scm. Orchestral Concert, S.20, Queen's Hall.

National Sunday League Concert, Verdi's 'Requiem,' &c., 7, Queen's Hall.

Mor. Miss Itosine de Vries and Mr. Atherton Smith's Pianoforte and Vocal Recital, 3, Queen's Small Hall.

Mr. and Mrs. Henschel's Vocal Recital, 3, St James's Hall.

Mr. and Mrs. Henschel's Vocal Recital, 3, St James's Hall.

Gold Palm Reef Company's Concert, 8, St-ismway Hall.

TUEM Madame Jutta Ranske's Lecture on Voice Reproduction, 3, Kensington Town Hall.

Mr. G. F. Haskins's Concert, 8, Great Hall, Cannon Street Hotel.

WED. Miss Meadow's Planoforte Recital, 3, Queen's Small Hall.

Herr Rosenthal's Planoforte Recital, 3, Re. James's Hall.

Mr. Heydrich's Pujic Concert, 8, Portman Rooms.

Police Orphanage Concert, 8, St. James's Hall.

Mr. Mr. Heydrich's Pujic Concert, 8, Tortman Rooms.

Police Orphanage Concert, 8, St. James's Hall.

Mr. Mr. Heydrich's Pujic Concert, 8, St. James's Hall.

Mr. J. T. Hutchinson's Vocal Recital, 8, Steinway Hall.

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Mr. J. T. Hutchinson's Vocal Recital, 8, Steinway Hall.

Elies Tecker's Fianoforte Recital, 8, Steinway Hall.

Mr. J. T. Hutchinson's Vocal Recital, 8, Steinway Hall.

Mr. J. T. Hutchinson's Vocal Recital, 8, Steinway Hall.

Mr. J. T. Hutchinson's Vocal Recital, 8, Steinway Hall.

Mr. J. T. Hutchinson's Vocal Recital, 8, Steinway Hall.

Royal Artillery Rand Concert, 3, Queen's Rall.

Madame Frickenbash Growthe's Recital, 8, St. James's Hall.

Royal Artillery Rand Concert, 3, Queen's Kall.

Madame Frickenbash Concert, 8, St. James's Hall.

London Hallad Concert, 3, Queen's Fanil Hall.

Teachers' Orphan Asylum Concert, 7,730, Queen's Hall.

Orchestral Concert, 8, St. James's Hall.

DRAMA

Brumatic Gossip.

A ONE-ACT sketch by Mr. Horace Newte, entitled 'The Eternal Masculine,' now precedes at Terry's 'The White Knight.' It is brightly interpreted by Misses Esmé and Vera Beringer.

AFTER a career so short as almost to establish a precedent, '22A, Curzon Street' has been withdrawn from the Garrick Theatre. Its place has been taken by 'A Brace of Partridges, which has been transferred thither from the Strand.

At the conclusion of the run of 'How London Lives' the Princess's Theatre is to be shut for complete reconstruction, and will remain closed until the autumn season. It is to be hoped that the changes will get rid of the welllike shape of the auditorium that makes it one of the most uncomfortable of winter houses.

'LORD AND LADY ALGY,' by Mr. R. C. Carton, is to be produced on the 16th of April at the Comedy Theatre, with a cast including Miss Compton and Messrs. Charles Hawtrey, H. Kemble, and Eric Lewis.

'THE UGLY LOVER; or, the Plainest Man in France,' an adaptation by Mr. Horace Newte of 'Roquelaure; ou, l'Homme le plus laid de France,' has been acted in London for copyright purposes.

A FARCICAL comedy, entitled 'The J. P.,' was given for the first time on Monday at the Shakspeare Theatre, Clapham Junction.

A VERY artistic souvenir of the representation at Her Majesty's of 'Julius Cæsar' was presented

on the fiftieth night. The opening essay, by Mr. Ernest Rhys, is an important piece of criticism, and the designs by Messrs. Railton, Goodman, Bowley, and Savage have great merit. The only thing to be regretted is that the misleading information concerning the early representation of the piece, to which on the occasion of the first performance we drew attention, is still retained.

The Adelphi Theatre is now closed, and will remain shut until the 9th of April, when the American drama 'The Heart of Maryland' will be given for the first time in London.

THE Avenue Theatre will, it is said, at Easter pass into the hands of Mr. H. J. Leslie.

'JULIA' is the title of the next novelty at the Royalty. It is by Mr. Arthur Sturgess, and provides Miss Freezr with a leash of characters. A trial performance will be given at Manchester before the piece is seen in London.

Mr. Charles Brookfield, well known as a dramatist and a comedian, has been compelled by delicate health to seek change of climate at Bordighera.

AT the Grand Theatre, Islington, 'Never Again,' the Vaudeville version of 'Le Truc de Seraphin,' has been played during the week, with Miss Agnes Miller and Mr. George Giddens in their original parts.

For the Irish Literary Society a lecture will be delivered by Mr. Frederic Whyte at the Society of Arts, John Street, W.C., on the 25th of March, at 3 P.M., on 'Irish Actors and Actresses of the Century.' Mr. Charles Wyndham will preside.

THE appearance of Mr. Forbes Robertson in Berlin as Macbeth deserves to be chronicled, since it is intended as a species of rehearsal of the character previous to its production in London in the autumn. It was received with favour, but nothing we have seen in the notices of the Prussian press enables us to form a very definite idea of its merits.

GREAT regret is felt in Vienna at the sudden death of the distinguished actress Frau Helene Hartmann, who was one of the ornaments of the Hoftheater. Last Wednesday week she appeared on the stage, and had only been ill a short time. Frau Hartmann was fifty-four years of age.

MISCELLANEA

Dr. Robert Norgate, Master of C. C. Coll. Camb.—Masters says, in his history of this college, that Dr. Norgate had only one son, viz., Edward, the Windsor Herald, nor has the statement, so far as I can discover, ever been statement, so far as I can discover, ever been contradicted, excepting only in Davy's Suffolk MS. Notes (now in the British Museum), where a "third son," named John, is mentioned, and said to have died in 1614. This is partly right and partly wrong, for it is very certain that the Doctor had three sons, viz., Henry (who died in 1617), Edward, and John, but it is equally certain that John did not die in 1614, for I happen to pressess indisputable evidence—viz. happen to possess indisputable evidence-viz., in the handwriting of John himself—that in that very year (1614) he was made free of the Stationers' Company, that he was married in 1616, had four children (two of whom died in infancy), and was still living in February, 1632. Davy's error evidently arose from mistaking this John, who was born January 21st, 1587/8, about two months after his father's death, for Norgate, of Aylsham, in Norfolk, the Doctor's eldest brother. This was the John Norgate who died in 1614.

TO CORRESPONDENTS, -J, P, -B, W. L, -J, A, C, -F, W. B. -H, R, G, -E, S, D, -W, G, S, -L, C, T, -H, F, S, -I, C, G, received.

G. W. B.—No, thanks.

L. T.-We cannot undertake to discuss such questions. No notice can be taken of anonymous communications.

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